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FALIN WARNS UNITED STATES OF SOVIET 'RETRIBUTION'

LD201739 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1640 GMT 20 Jan 83

["Article by 'IZVESTIYA's' political observer" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 20 Jan (TASS) -- "The Soviet Union says 'yes' to joint efforts aimed at preventing nuclear war in any form. The USSR does not intend, however, to enter into discussion with the United States, or with anybody whatsoever, on the subject of the 'classification' of strikes -- 'selective,' 'demonstrative' and 'preemptive,' writes Valentin Falin, political observer of IZVESTIYA in the paper today.

"The Soviet Union," he notes, "orients its international policy toward the settlement of all disputes and conflict situations by peaceful means, toward the constructive cooperation of states. The security of peoples is threatened not because there are too few armaments. There are too many."

"The USSR has considered and still considers," Valentin Falin continues, "that for defense needs an approximate parity between the USSR and the United States, between the Warsaw Pact and NATO is sufficient. The maintenance of a military balance at lower levels of nuclear and non-nuclear armaments would meet the security interests of these two groups and of international security as a whole."

The IZVESTIYA political observer notes that "honest cooperation, the amalgamation of efforts to solve the global problems of concern to mankind and joint constructive work by states with different social systems do not enter into Washington's current thinking. These things run counter to its policy, which rejects the very principles of good-neighborliness, the primacy of commonsense and the need to make nuclear war unthinkable and impossible."

In Valentin Falin's opinion, "banking on force and the threat to employ force is becoming a kind of axis, around which U.S. foreign policy revolves." But no matter what might an attacker possesses and no matter what method of unleashing nuclear war he chooses," the observer emphasizes, "he will not attain his goals. Retribution will follow irrevocably. This warning of the Soviet leadership remains valid and should be understood precisely as it was given."

UNITED STATES HAS 'ZERO INTEREST' IN GENEVA TALKS

PM201353 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 2, 12 Jan 83 (Signed to Press 10 Jan 83) p 9

[Vladimir Lomeyko "Viewpoint": "'Zero' to Offer" -- passages between slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] If one were to analyze the West's reaction to the Soviet peace initiatives, in particular on the question of nuclear arms limitation in Europe, one would obtain a picture both contradictory and eloquent. The majority of the public welcomes the proposals put forward by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Yu.V. Andropov as a constructive step which gives Europe hope. There have been positive assessments from many politicians, including W. Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD), J. Rau, minister-president of Nordrhein-Westfalen, prominent labor party leaders and some U.S. senators, primarily those who see the Geneva talks as a way of bringing about, by joint efforts, a reduction of nuclear confrontation and thus a strengthening of European security.

The reaction was different at Ronald Reagan's court and among his NATO favorites. And one can clearly distinguish two stages in it.

The first stage is the hasty one. Just like, as they say, striking the bell without consulting the church calendar first. Without bothering to study the Soviet proposals (in Mrs Thatcher's case, without even reading them) the people on the Potomac, the Thames, the Rhine and other capital cities' rivers muttered: old hat and not enough. Giving themselves away completely once again: The only people who react like that are people who have little interest in seeking an accord. In their haste, they also forgot that the days of secret diplomacy are past. In the nuclear age, when it is a question of living or not living, millions of people want to relieve themselves and their children of the nuclear threat. And they saw potential hope in Moscow's message on the threshold of the new year. Sensing the public opinion, the Western capitals saw their mistake.

Then came the second stage, sober-minded and mollifying. Stopping in their tracks, they suddenly started saying that the Soviets had taken a step in the right direction and the West must study the proposals seriously. Better late than never, you might say. If only one could be confident that the enlightened attitude was sincere. But the fact is that admissions are frequently a pretense, a tactical ploy: There is nowhere to go, so they dodge and weave to undermine vigilance and prolong the talks. This is exactly what many U.S. and West European press organs are saying. But they also note that this time Washington will find it difficult to avoid making a pertinent reply.

Why? Primarily because Moscow's proposals are straightforward and fair. Indeed, the Soviet Union wants to have not a single aircraft and medium-range missile more than NATO. Moscow is advocating either the complete abandonment of all types of nuclear weapons in Europe, both medium-range and tactical, or -- if the West is not prepared to do this -- the USSR will keep exactly as many of these missiles in the European zone as Britain and France have. In any case, it would be a genuine zero option for a balance of forces in terms of medium-range missiles between the USSR and the United States in Europe.

The NATO argument that a nuclear-freeze Europe is impossible since that would increase the risk of a nonnuclear conflict is completely destroyed by socialist Europe's new initiative on concluding a treaty on mutual nonuse of military force and on maintaining relations of peace between the Warsaw Pact and NATO states.

This approach, honest and fair, in the opinion of many Western observers, is evidence of the USSR's sincere interest in achieving an accord in Geneva and in strengthening European security. And this is what the European public feels. People, even the most gullible among them, are not going to be deceived by NATO doubletalk: If there is no agreement in Geneva the U.S. missiles will be deployed.

Against the background of the Soviet proposal it becomes even clearer to many West Europeans who is to blame for the lack of progress in Geneva, who is opening and who is closing the door to agreement.

The West German magazine DER SPIEGEL reports that in a secret memorandum the FRG Foreign Ministry has listed all the pros and cons of the Soviet proposal. There is a very large number of pros, of course, but, as DER SPIEGEL writes, privately Washington has very different thoughts: The deployment of the medium-range missiles and cruise missiles is in any case more important than efforts geared to seeking in Geneva solutions which would make the deployment of these weapons unnecessary.

This approach is an open secret of long standing. Both Washington's delaying tactics at the Geneva talks and its reaction to the Soviet proposals demonstrate to Europeans that at the talks the Americans have "zero" to offer! Zero commonsense and zero interest in the success of the talks.

But people with any sense will scarcely allow themselves to be regarded as simpletons. And the longer the Washington hawks make the talks drag on and sabotage the agreement, the more they will expose themselves as the missile crusaders of the 20th century.

The Soviet Union has put forward weighty and just proposals. What attitude people adopt toward them is the touchstone on the path to ridding Europe of the nuclear burden. This will also be a measure of states' political will and their responsibility to human civilization.

U.S. RESPONSE TO USSR, PACT PROPOSALS CRITICIZED

PM201447 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Yu. Bandura "International Review": "From Positions of Peace and Security"]

[Excerpts] The conference of the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee held in Prague 4-5 January was the first event in international political life in the new year of 1983 and an event of lasting historic significance. At the conference the highest representatives of seven socialist countries unanimously adopted the Political Declaration -- a document which, from the first instant it appeared, attracted the concentrated attention of all the planet's peoples and the governments of all states.

Obviously, people in the capitals of the leading Western powers are beginning to realize that the will for peace expressed by the socialist community and backed up by more and more new initiatives also reflects the innermost aspirations of the peoples of Western countries themselves. And so, people in the West have been forced increasingly frequently to recognize the significance of the proposals of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact states.

However, the question arises: How sincere are the manifestations or realism to be observed in the capitals of Western powers, and primarily in Washington, in response to the initiatives of the USSR and the socialist community? I certainly would not like to cast doubt on these statements: Together with all the world's peoples we have long been waiting for Washington to display readiness for a constructive discussion of questions of international security.

I would like to believe.... But let us not be in a hurry. "Believe, and faith will save you" -- this is not our slogan, nor even a slogan of our time, a time when the threat of nuclear disaster is a real one. What is needed is not faith but conviction. And only practical actions in the direction of detente, in the direction of reducing the level of the danger of war will enable us to be convinced of the sincerity of statements about peace by the United States and its NATO allies.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers emphasized when considering the results of the Political Consultative Committee conference that "the Soviet Union is doing everything in its power to ensure that reason triumphs in international affairs. It will continue to consistently pursue the Leninist policy of peaceful coexistence with states with a different social system, maintaining vigilance toward the intrigues of enemies of socialism and peace and taking the necessary measures to ensure the country's security." Thus, it is up to the West. But it is hard to say yet what sort of action it will take. All the more so as, by all accounts, the enemies of detente do not intend to disarm themselves, and there are still many "blank spots" in stands of certain Western state leaders.

Thus, the French newspaper LA CROIX, reflecting widespread doubts, writes: "Since the American President announced that he is ready to sit at the negotiating table with the USSR leaders, it is possible to ask oneself this question: Has Reagan's stand changed only in form or also in content?" A correspondent of West Germany's NEUE OSNABRUECKER ZEITUNG puts a similar question with regard to the statement by the head of the American Administration: "What is this? A tactic and a show or the start of a change taking shape? Do the Americans understand that after the Soviet steps forward they, too, must move from a standstill so as to secure progressive changes?" Many people in the West are pondering this question. THE WASHINGTON POST has been forced to state not without irritation: "No one knows the President's real intentions regarding reaching agreement with the Soviet Union. These intentions (more accurately, their verbal formulation -- Yu.B.) change almost every day.... Moscow's proposals to reduce arms and hold a summit meeting and the proposal to conclude a treaty on the nonuse of military force and the maintenance of relations f peace between the member-states of NATO and the Warsaw Pact follow one after another. But the President evades discussion and moves to one side."

The NATO attempts to evade discussion of the socialist community's initiatives have recently been visible even to the naked eye, as the saying goes. Noteworthy in this connection is the trend which is becoming apparent among certain responsible NATO figures to pass off white as black and to maintain that the proposals which have come out of Moscow and Prague at the end of 1982 and the beginning of 1983 are a "sign of weakness" on the part of the Warsaw Pact states, and the Soviet Union above all, and that they are a direct result of Washington's "tough approach" to nuclear arms talks. Such an "interpretation" of the socialist states' initiatives is given, in particular, by General Rogers, supreme commander in chief, NATO Armed Forces, Europe.

Truly perverse logic. Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, declared at the 21 December Moscow festivities last year: "Our stand on this question is clear: Nuclear war cannot be permitted -- neither small, nor big, nor limited, nor total. There is now no more important task then that of stopping the instigators of a new war." And this task is being resolved by the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community by proposing the only sensible alternative to sliding toward nuclear disaster. And as for the Western admirers of the "nuclear deterrent" doctrine, let no one be mistaken: We will never allow our security or that of our allies to be threatened.

In the light of these clear-cut stands, which allow no misinterpretation, attempts to distort the essence of the socialist states' new initiatives look like nothing more than a pretext for avoiding a constructive dialogue on a fundamental problem of the present day. People on both sides of the Atlantic are pinning their hopes on successfully misleading the Western public with regard to the East's peace initiatives.

Stating his readiness to discuss the new Soviet initiatives, the U.S. President reported that at the end of January he will send Vice President G. Bush for consultations with his West European allies. This decision in itself indicates nothing. But this is what White House spokesmen point out regarding the aims of that trip, as THE WASHINGTON POST reports: "Bush's trip is designed to counter the expanding movement in West Europe against nuclear arms."

Trends of this sort are to eloquent to need additional commentary. From such positions the cause of ensuring peace on our planet, the cause of international security will not make headway. And yet it is precisely such progress that the planet's peoples await. And the new initiatives of the USSR and the Warsaw Pact states merely strengthen their confidence in the ability of the forces of peace to gain victory over the forces of war.

CHERVOV INTERVIEWED ON USSR DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS

AU182130 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 15 Jan 82 p 6

[Interview with Soviet Colonel General N. Chervov by APN commentator V. Morozov: "Col Gen Chervov on Soviet Disarmament Proposals: The West's False Arguments" -- date and place not given]

[Text] The latest Soviet peace proposals voiced by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Y.V. Andropov in his 21 December 1982 speech have elicited a broad response throughout the world. APN military commentator V. Morozov asked Soviet military expert Colonel General N. Chervov to comment on the "arguments" of those Western officials who have been substantiating the "unacceptability" of the Soviet proposals.

[Question] Some representatives of the U.S. Administration assert that there is nothing new in the latest Soviet proposals pertaining to the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe, and that these proposals allegedly only repeat Moscow's earlier approach, albeit with new "wrapping." What can you say about the origin of these assertions?

[Answer] These assertions are, above all, spread by those who do not want a positive solution to the problem of the limitation and reduction of nuclear arms in Europe, by those who are trying to confuse the public and persuade it that the USSR is putting obstacles in the path of progress at the negotiations while the United States is in favor of an agreement. But the facts say something else. Therefore, let us look back at how the USSR position evolved and how the United States has reacted to it.

Already, at the very beginning of the talks, the USSR submitted a proposal for a mutual agreement concerning a ban on medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. For this only one thing was necessary -- good will: the willingness to halt the feverish arms race. However, the United States did not show this good will and willingness. Despite this, the USSR -- in the interest of finding a mutually acceptable solution -- introduced a unilateral ban on its own nuclear medium-range missile arsenal. And how did the United States react to this step? With renewed tests of the Pershing II missiles and flat-trajectory missiles, by continuing the construction of missile bases, by declaring that the NATO decision on the "military augmentation" ["dozbrojeni"] of Western Europe will be carried out at any price.

Later -- in 1981 -- the USSR expressed its opposition to the deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. The Soviet Union repudiated all types of nuclear weapons destined to destroy targets in Europe -- medium-range weapons as well as tactical weapons. The United States responded to the Soviet initiative with silence.

The USSR also proposed another option: reducing the number of nuclear medium-range carriers to 300, that is, 3 times fewer than the existing number, on a bilateral basis, understandably. But the United States did not accede to that either.

And now CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Y. Andropov has submitted a new significant and far-reaching proposal. He said: "We are willing to accede to that the Soviet Union keeps in Europe only as many missiles as Britain and France have -- not a single one more." And with regard to aircraft carrying nuclear weapons we are also in favor of parity on a considerably lower level than exists at present.

What does the latest Soviet proposal mean in practice? Above all: the clearly expressed assent of the Soviet Union to an agreement that the Soviet Union would not have a single medium-range missile or a single medium-range aircraft more than NATO.

That means that the Soviet Union would reduce its numerical strength by hundreds of missiles, including more than dozens of the most modern missiles which the West calls SS-20's; that means that the ratio of strength in the sphere of medium-range missiles between the USSR and the United States would truly be "zero" in Europe. On the Soviet side there would remain only a number equivalent to English and French missiles. And should the number of British and French missiles be reduced in the future, the number of Soviet missiles would be reduced by the same number. To put it concisely: The Soviet side is willing to maximally reduce its missiles in Europe to the level of the English and French missile arsenal.

Therefore, the latest Soviet proposals cannot be a new "wrapping," but are a significant step on the path toward the solution of the problem of nuclear arms in Europe. They are quite realistic, concrete and mutually acceptable proposals aimed at increasing the security of both sides. This proposal does not demand unilateral disarmament, does not want to achieve military superiority. At the same time, under the existing conditions it shows itself to be the most radical solution. On this occasion one has to recall the words of the highest Soviet representative, Y. Andropov: "We are calling on our counterparts to agree with this clear and just arrangement and make use of this opportunity while it exists." But is the American side really willing to embark upon the path leading to an agreement?

[Question] A number of Western arguments about the "unacceptability" of the Soviet proposal often mention the English and French nuclear arsenal. Specifically, it is being asserted that it is not necessary to include this arsenal in the balance sheet on the NATO side because it is minimal, especially when compared with the number of nuclear medium-range devices at the USSR's disposal. What, actually, constitutes the English and French nuclear potential?

[Answer] This is a very real nuclear potential. Overall it constitutes 260 missiles and aircraft carrying nuclear weapons. When we take into consideration the number of warheads we get an even clearer picture. The missiles of England and France can carry together: currently, 340 nuclear payloads, by 1985 about 600 payloads with an impact exceeding 150 megatons, by 1990 about 1,200 payloads with an impact of 170 megatons. These weapons have a range reaching as far as the Urals. And when England equips its missile-carrying submarines with the new Trident II missiles, it will have at its disposal about 900 very accurate warheads, capable of hitting targets anywhere in the Soviet territory.

Can one possibly ignore all this? Of course not. The USSR does not strive to reduce English and French nuclear arsenals. However, it is necessary for the Soviet side to take that potential into consideration when drawing the overall balance sheet. That, by the way, is also anchored in the joint Soviet-American declaration of 1979. That means that all the arguments of the West on this issue -- from the legal as well as from the military point of view -- are untenable.

[Question] The United States, which announced its "zero option" even before the talks began, is still sticking to it. In addition, it is trying to depict the latest Soviet initiative as a purely propaganda action. What is the objective of similar actions?

[Answer] The United States understands well that its "zero option" is not in tune with reality, that it is unilateral. However, it needs it to protract negotiations and under its aegis to prepare the deployment of new missiles in Europe. Therefore, to substantiate its zero option, it does not hesitate to employ a number of false arguments. In reality, it is trying to prove that either unilateral USSR disarmament or the "military augmentation" of West Europe with 572 American medium-range missiles must be the result of the Geneva talks. This either-or constitutes a profound violation of the principles of equality and equal security.

By starting the usual propaganda campaign, Washington is pursuing its former objective -- to defend its "zero option" with any means. Involved this time is an approach from the opposite end -- it is trying to belittle the significance of the latest Soviet proposal in the eyes of Americans and the West European public, create among them an opinion that the proposal does not contain anything new and that, unfortunately, no changes have occurred in the Soviet proposal -- the USSR is allegedly continuing its attempts to achieve military superiority over the West. It is also obvious that at the opening round of the disarmament negotiations, set for 27 January, the American side will, like before, continue its delaying tactics, avoiding the most substantial questions. But it is already clear to all that the key to the successful results of the talks is now in the hands of Washington.

[Question] In connection with the latest Soviet proposal aimed at resolving the problem of nuclear medium-range weapons, the idea has been cropping up in the Western press that the "military augmentation" of Western Europe with American missiles is only a political and not a military question, since the United States as well as the USSR already have great nuclear arsenals at their disposal and increasing them is of no military importance. What can be said about that argument?

[Answer] That it is simply beyond criticism. It is obvious who would benefit from viewing the additional deployment of almost 600 American medium-range missiles as only a political factor and obscuring its military-strategic aspect.

It must be clear to everyone that in the sphere of strategic weapons an approximate parity exists between the USSR and the United States. But will this parity be maintained if the "military augmentation" of Western Europe with 572 missiles occurs? Of course not. That parity would be upset in favor of the United States. Denying this fact and saying that the deployment of almost 600 American missiles in Western Europe is of no military importance for the two sides' existing nuclear potential means not understanding the essence of the military problem or quite knowingly denying the truth.

The problem is that the new American missiles transferred to the Soviet border will, in fact, become an indivisible and a very dangerous part of the overall U.S. nuclear strategic potential which is today located on the American Continent. The Pershing II and the flat-trajectory missiles whose range is over 2,500 km would threaten the bodies of the USSR state and military leadership, the launching bases of Soviet ICBM's and other strategic projects. Is that not clear? After all, the flight time of the Pershing II missiles is about 6 minutes. What can be done in 6 minutes?

In this connection one has to recall that G. Brown [name as published], the former U.S. secretary of defense, during a secret assessment of this problem, openly said that in this case the United States would achieve an obvious and indisputable strategic superiority. Thus, this would involve not a simple arithmetical addition of 600 new missiles to Washington's nuclear arsenal, but a sharp qualitative change in the strategic situation in favor of the United States. Judge for yourselves: 600 missiles, what kind of factor is it, military or political? Therefore, the USSR cannot view the new American missiles as anything but an explicitly military factor.

Thus the so-called arguments of the United States have been fabricated to cover up the true intentions of their propagators and have tried to disparage the latest Soviet proposals. But they will hardly succeed. It will be difficult for Washington to avoid giving an answer to the latest Soviet initiative. And the answer must aim at resolving problems and not serve propagandist intentions. "We hope," Y. Andropov stressed, "that the United States will respond to our just and constructive stand by displaying good will. This could ensure the successful course of our mutual negotiations. And I am convinced that this success will be very good for all of mankind."

III. 21 Jan 83 AA 8 USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

PONOMAREV CRITICIZES FRENCH DISARMAMENT STANCE

LD202303 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The newspaper WASHINGTON POST has published today the statement made in an interview with its correspondent by French national Defence Minister Charles Hernu. The correspondent quoted Hernu as saying: "France will continue its own nuclear weapons modernization program no matter what the outcome of Soviet-American talks in Geneva on intermediate range nuclear missiles, and totally rejects Soviet proposals to have its (that is French, TASS note) independent nuclear force used as a basis for negotiations at those talks."

The above-quoted pronouncement has in essence touched upon two highly important and independent questions: one concerns France's intention to carry on its programme for a modernization of nuclear weapons; the second boils down to the contention that the Soviet Union allegedly proposed to use as a basis for the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe the question of the use of the French "independent nuclear force."

The first part of the minister's statement, the way it is presented by the newspaper, can, apparently, be only taken note of. As far as the second part is concerned, it indisputably, needs a serious specification. The point is that the Soviet side did not and does not intend to make British and French nuclear weapons a subject of Soviet-U.S. talks. The Soviet Union does not propose a limitation or a cut in the nuclear forces of Britain and France. If the Soviet Union and the USA succeeded in reaching agreement at Geneva on a limitation on nuclear weapons in Europe, none of the provisions of such an agreement would impose any obligations on Britain and France.

At the same time, the USSR cannot but consider in its policy the really existing nuclear weapons of Britain and France, as the point at issue are not neutral countries, but the allies of the USA in the North Atlantic bloc, nuclear powers, whose missiles can reach Soviet territory. [sentence as received] And although we are not going to overestimate the significance of the French and British weapons in analysing the general balance of forces of the two opposing groupings, they can by no means be disregarded.

There is also another aspect that is of no small significance and is highly characteristic: Mention of British and French nuclear weapons is contained in that part of the Soviet proposals, which speak of the USSR's readiness to reduce its medium-range nuclear weapons down to the levels of Britain and France combined. Not by a single missile, a single plane more or less: In that case, as Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed, this means that the Soviet Union would reduce its missiles by hundreds, including by tens of most modern missiles named in the West SS-20. This is the real stand of the Soviet side and the Soviet proposals aimed at limiting and reducing nuclear weapons.

In conclusion, THE WASHINGTON POST evaluates the pronouncements by Charles Hernu as indicating to the growing closeness on defence issues between Washington's conservative Republican administration and the socialist regime of President Francois Mitterrand.

Does Mr Hernu agree with such an appraisal?

KUZNETSOV SCORES BRITISH NUCLEAR ARMS POLICY

PM201349 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 Jan 83 p 5

[Article by G. Kuznetsov: "British Plus Added to the U.S. 'Zero'"]

[Excerpts] It will be recalled that the day after the delivery of the report on the USSR's 60th anniversary by Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, British Prime Minister M. Thatcher was asked in the House of Commons about her attitude toward the new Soviet proposals for limiting medium-range nuclear armaments in Europe. The Tory leader rejected them without a second thought. Then she admitted that she had not even read them. This stance on the part of the British head of government with regard to a very serious international problem is like an unpleasant anecdote. But unfortunately it is a deliberate, albeit irresponsible, policy.

As is well known, in seeking to avert the threat looming over the European peoples because of the preparations to deploy about 600 new U.S. missiles, the Soviet Union has advanced two far-reaching proposals. The first is to renounce all types of nuclear weapons aimed at striking targets in Europe, both medium-range and tactical. The second, as an alternate, is that the USSR and the NATO countries reduce their medium-range arms by over 2/3, counting, naturally, all type of delivery vehicles, including weapons in the British and French nuclear arsenals.

London, which, like Washington, is clinging with a persistence worthy of better application to Reagan's notorious "zero option" aimed at the USSR's unilateral disarmament, was reluctant to examine these proposals, which are imbued with concern for the conservation of peace. The farfetched pretext was put forward that the British nuclear forces are "independent" and that Britain is taking no part in the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva where these problems are being discussed. Since that is so, there is allegedly nothing to discuss.

However, in resorting to this "argument," London has been acting like a cardshark. After all, the USSR did not raise the question of reducing British nuclear forces. It spoke of CONSIDERING [capitalized word published in boldface] when elaborating a relevant agreement the delivery vehicles which Britain, which is a NATO member, has in its possession, all the more so since it is no secret that its missiles are targeted not just anywhere but against the Soviet Union, which is termed a "potential enemy."

Displaying goodwill and seeking to find a mutually acceptable solution, our country took one more big step forward. Yu. V. Andropov said: "We are prepared in particular to set about ensuring that the Soviet Union retains in Europe only the same number of missiles as Britain and France have -- and not one more." At the same time it was suggested that an accord be reached on also reducing to equal levels on both sides the number of aircraft carrying medium-range nuclear weapons which the USSR and the NATO countries have in this region.

A hasty "no" has now been heard from London in response to these proposals based on the principle of the sides' parity and equal security. The British leaders are hypocritically pretending that their nuclear forces play virtually no part in the world nuclear balance and that there is therefore no need to count them. That is also playing with marked cards.

What is the real British nuclear potential?

Britain now has 4 nuclear submarines in the Polaris system carrying a total of 64 missiles. Each missile has three individually targeted warheads with a yield of 200 kilotons each in TNT equivalent, that is, almost 16 times the size of the bomb which destroyed Hiroshima.

Consequently, 192 warheads can be targeted on 192 different cities or other targets in the European part of the USSR. Their total yield is 3,000 times greater than the Hiroshima bomb. Right now the British admiralty is installing more sophisticated missiles with not three but six warheads on the Polaris submarines. However, even this does not seem enough to the Conservative government. It has decided to replace the Polaris missiles with U.S.-produced Trident missiles. Each of the 4 submarines in the system will be fitted with 12 (and possibly 14 and 16) missiles with 14 warheads each. Some 7.5 billion pounds sterling have been earmarked for these purposes. The number of warheads will therefore increase to a minimum of 384 while their yield will increase from 150 to 600 kilotons. The flight range of the Trident I is up to 7,000 km and that of the Trident II up to 11,000 km. As the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS noted, "If Britain implements its plan to purchase the Trident II missiles from the United States it will acquire a nuclear potential capable of wiping the Soviet Union from the face of the earth."

In addition to submarine-based missiles, Britain has 56 Vulcan aircraft and 60 Buccaneer aircraft capable of carrying nuclear weapons. In all, according to the figures of researcher Joseph Gallagher, who works at the Lancaster University Center for the Study of Arms Control and Problems of International Security, British nuclear weapon stockpiles total 1,500-2,000 units.

It is this nuclear arsenal, whose total yield is 10,000 times that of the Hiroshima bomb, which Washington and London would like to exclude from agreements! It is absolutely clear that this is an overt attempt to secure for NATO a unilateral advantage over the Soviet Union. Nor does the argument that ground-based and submarine-based missiles cannot be compared because of their differing accuracy stand up to criticism. Surely a deviation from target of 30-150 meters cannot play the slightest part, given such formidable destructive strength?!

It is not surprising that the perfidious plans of the nuclear strategists from the Pentagon and Whitehall, which are surely designed to mislead only very naive people, are encountering very widespread criticism. An increasing number of eminent figures in various countries, political parties and governments are supporting the idea of counting the British and French potentials in drafting an agreement on medium-range nuclear arms limitation in Europe.

In Britain the nuclear disarmament movement is expanding vigorously and has now acquired a particularly persistent nature in the struggle against the deployment of cruise missiles, as is borne out by the mighty demonstrations and "peace camps" at the gates of U.S. bases. The Labor Party has stated that it will denounce the agreement with the United States on the deployment of missiles when it comes to power and that it will reject the purchase of the Tridents and close down all nuclear bases, including British ones. Demands are being heard increasingly frequently for London's unilateral renunciation of its nuclear potential. The British peace fighters have received important aid from the British Church of England, which had formerly always supported government policy. The report "The Church and the Bomb" states that Britain should renounce its "independent nuclear deterrent," abandon the Trident system and gradually dismantle the Polaris missiles. It rejects propaganda in the spirit of the cold war and stresses: "The task of nuclear disarmament is just the first and most urgent element in an important political, social, educational, psychological and religious matter: eradicating war as such." In his Christmas sermon Archbishop of Canterbury R. Runcie stated: "No one can win a full-scale nuclear war and an end should be put to talk which presents this catastrophe as anything other than madness."

"The nuclear disarmament problem is becoming a dangerous question for Britain's bellicose Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who is worried that she is losing the initiative in the increasingly fierce national debates," AP noted a few days ago.

This shows yet again how correctly the question of nuclear arms limitation in Europe is posed by the Soviet Union, whose proposals are meeting with support from the peoples everywhere.

MOROZOV VIEWS BRITISH, FRENCH NUCLEAR POTENTIAL

PM201039 Moscow TRUD in Russian 12 Jan 82 p 3

["Military Observer's Notes" by Colonel V. Morozov: "Honest Option Needed: The Nature of the British and French Nuclear Potential"]

[Text] The Soviet Union's new proposal to retain in Europe only as many missiles as Britain and France have has met with a wide response throughout the world. Objective people assess it as further confirmation of our country's sincere desire to achieve nuclear arms limitation and reduction in the European zone. At the same time, as is known, it was rejected out of hand in Washington and the capitals of other NATO countries. Trying to justify this negative stance, Western propaganda makes frequent use -- among many other invented "arguments" -- of assertions about the imaginary "weakness" of the British and French nuclear potential and how they should allegedly not be taken into account at all.

In this connection let us recall a few generally known facts which will enable any unprejudiced person to gain a correct impression of this potential and see what its purpose is today. Here is how the British and French nuclear potential looks, just in terms of medium-range facilities.

The British sea-based Polaris A-3KT missiles (64 units in all) have a range of 4,600 km and are each equipped with 3 nuclear warheads. The French ground-based S-2 and S-3 medium-range ballistic missiles (18 units in all) have a range of 3,700 km, while the M-20 submarine ballistic missiles (80 units in all) have a range of 3,200 km. Also forming part of the two West European states' nuclear potential are the British Vulcan planes (55 in all) with a range of 4,800 km and the French Mirage IV planes (46 in all) with a range of 1,600 km.

The potential of the two West European nuclear powers is now being intensively modernized by equipping the missiles with a greater number of warheads. Thus Britain is installing 6 warheads instead of 3 on the Polaris missiles (and after Polaris is replaced by Trident, there will be 8-14 warheads). France is planning to replace its single-warhead missiles with missiles with seven warheads; it is proposed to increase the number of missile-carrying nuclear submarines to seven by 1990 (there are five at present). If you count warheads, British and French missiles could now put up 340 nuclear warheads at once, by 1985 they could put up about 600 warheads with a yield of more than 130 megatons, and by 1990 -- nearly 1,200 warheads with a yield of some 170 megatons. Thus as a result of the modernization of British and French nuclear systems the two states' arsenal will be more than trebled by 1900 compared with the present in terms of the number of nuclear warheads capable of being launched simultaneously.

It is also well known that the American Trident II ballistic missiles with which M. Thatcher's government is planning to arm British missile-carrying submarines will have practically the same combat potential as modern MX ground-based ICBM's, that is, they will be first-strike weapons. Britain alone will then have some 900 highly accurate warheads.

From the military viewpoint the purpose, combat potential and capabilities of such missiles must be clear to any soberminded person: They will be able to reach targets all over the USSR.

As for the Western propaganda thesis about the so-called "weakness" of the French and British nuclear potential, in the light of the above facts it may be stressed once again that it is false from start to finish. In terms of content, the British and French nuclear potentials as a whole and their main component, missiles, are sufficiently powerful, and they are targeted on the USSR and other socialist countries.

And just the 192 nuclear warheads targeted on the USSR which are now fitted to British Polaris missiles could cause an explosion 3,000 times as powerful as the one that took place in Hiroshima in 1945.

Thus in Western Europe the Soviet Union is faced -- in addition to American forward-based facilities -- by an imposing arsenal of French and British nuclear weapons which is being constantly modernized and which must be taken into account in calculating the overall balance of forces in Europe.

Speaking at the ceremonial session in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses on 21 December, Yu.V. Andropov said: "We are prepared, in particular, to go as far as to ensure that the Soviet Union retains in Europe only as many missiles as Britain and France have -- and not one more. This means that the Soviet Union would reduce its missiles by hundreds, including tens of the most modern missiles, which are called SS-20's in the West. As for the USSR and the United States, this would be a really honest 'zero' option in terms of medium-range missiles. And if the number of British and French missiles were subsequently reduced, the number of Soviet ones would be additionally reduced by the same number."

This well-founded, fair stance by the Soviet Union fully accords with the fundamental principle of military detente -- the principle of equality and equal security.

KOZLOV ARTICLE DISCUSSES CRUISE MISSILES

AU181608 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 17 Jan 83 p 6

[Article by USSR Major General Svetoslav Kozlov, reserve: "A 'Medium-Range' Complicity," "specially dispatched" for OTECHESTVEN FRONT by APN from Moscow]

[Text] In justifying their consent for their country's territory to be used for the testing of U.S. cruise missiles, Canadian leaders are defending the thesis that such missiles are by no means aggressive, offensive weapons and cannot serve as a means for a first nuclear strike because they are moving too slowly toward their target, at a speed which does not exceed a total of 900 km an hour.

The people in Ottowa declare that "the cruise missile is similar to a bomber, and wars are not started with bombers." Such a statement possibly reflect NATO's concept.

It is a well-known fact that all wars within the last 50 years have usually started with bombers. The probability of such a beginning now has increased even more, particularly after bombers have been supplied with long-range cruise missiles.

The subsonic speed of the cruise missiles is greatly compensated for by the other features of this weapon, which makes it the aggressor's favorite weapon, first used in aggressive actions and a mobile weapon suitable for a first strike.

The missiles' small size attests to this fact first of all: It is not difficult to hide them during transportation and in setting the site for their launching. The missiles fly at low heights, about 40-60 meters above the ground, and change their trajectory during flight.

All of this makes it difficult to locate cruise missiles by reconnaisance and to take measures for counteraction. Cruise missiles are capable of carrying nuclear as well as traditional warheads. Cruise missiles can be launched from any site whatsoever, from the ground, from the air (by aircraft), as well as from the sea (by using ships and submarines of various types), and even from nonmilitary vessels. But what is most important -- they can be launched in great number.

All of these features convincingly prove the aggressive purpose of cruise missiles. The great number of them, the fact that they are controlled by high strategic commands and their secret deployment -- all this makes these missiles particularly dangerous weapons with regard to the outbreak of a nuclear war, because of the so-called "lowering of the nuclear treshold."

This is precisely why the missiles were greeted with such enthusiasm by the Pentagon. "The era of cruise missiles is coming," the spokesman announced, reporting that the first squadron of U.S. transcontinental B-52 bombers has already been equipped with such weapons and that "nowadays, cruise missiles can be used in military operations." The U.S. Air Force has already issued an order for 4,350 such missiles. The U.S. Navy has ordered 1,720 of them.

Taking into consideration these impressive figures, 464 cruise missiles equipped with nuclear warheads, destined for deployment on Western European soil, seem to be a "modest" addition to the forward-based weapons already deployed by NATO. Amounting to about 1,000 new missiles, in addition to the 108 ballistic missiles of the Pershing II type, they would be sufficient to shift the strategic balance of forces to the advantage of the United States and NATO, not only on the European Continent, but also on a world-wide scale considering the fact that there are no such Soviet missiles near the United States and Canada.

As to the cruise missiles being outside the framework of the proposed reductions, we must assume that their fate will be decided upon at the SALT talks and that the path toward such a decision has been mapped out in the SALT II treaty.

Naturally, the forced arms race, started by the United States, is not very likely to contribute to favorable future prospects concerning negotiations on these weapons. If the NATO member-countries are interested in the success of such a dialogue it would be more expedient for them not to devote their efforts toward cooperating in creating and perfecting U.S. and other cruise missiles, but to sensibly halting, or even better -- interrupting -- this process, which is dangerous to us all.

U.S. PRESS CITED ON ROSTOW RESIGNATION

LD181754 Moscow TASS in English 1633 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 18 TASS -- The reshuffle in the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency has been determined, according to comments in the American press, by its leadership's faith at a certain stage in the Reagan administration's public announcements about its "readiness" for limitation and restriction of nuclear armaments in Europe.

According to the newspaper NEW YORK TIMES, Eugene Rostow drew on himself the displeasure of the White House by his attempts to set moving the Geneva talks on the limitation of medium-range nuclear armaments in Europe, departing from the so-called "zero option" of Ronald Reagan which is reduced to a unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union.

The administration was particularly irritated by Rostow's support for the demands by the chief American negotiator in Geneva, Paul Nitze, for a greater freedom of maneuvers, the newspaper reports.

Way back in August last year, the White House reprimanded him for supporting Paul Nitze's informal consultations in Geneva on an acceptable alternative to Reagan's "zero option", this alternative, THE NEW YORK TIMES points out, was immediately rejected by Washington, and the President's national security adviser William Clark personally rebuked Eugene Rostow and Paul Nitze for "exceeding their powers".

The administration did not risk a reshuffle at that time, fearing a negative response from the Western European countries, which, according to THE NEW YORK TIMES, expressed their growing displeasure with the U.S. stubborn adherence to the "zero option" which is reduced, in fact, to a deliberate sabotage of the Geneva talks.

When the Soviet Union, however, advanced new constructive peace initiatives which, as the newspaper WASHINGTON POST writes, were met with the liveliest interest in Western Europe, especially in the Federal Republic of Germany, the American leadership toughened its stand. According to the U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, the Pentagon was especially zealously opposed to any proposals which could 'dilute' Reagan's "zero option".

And when, according to THE WASHINGTON POST, Eugene Rostow sent a memorandum to Secretary of State George Shultz in which he complained that the powers of the head of the U.S. delegation to the Geneva talks, Paul Nitze, were again sharply restricted, he was told that the President was sending him into retirement.

All this story, THE WASHINGTON POST points out, evokes suspicion that the Reagan administration not only fails to work for an accord, but pretends that it is taking part in the talks in order to play for time to build up the U.S. military might.

CHEMICAL WEAPONS TALKS RESUME IN GENEVA

PM201505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Committee Resumes Work"]

[Text] Geneva, 17 Jan -- The participants in the talks which resumed here today under the auspices of the Disarmament Committee on the elaboration of an international convention on banning the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and destroying such weapons are focusing their attention on the Political Declaration adopted in Prague by the Warsaw Pact states. As is known, this document, which has met with a tremendous international response, cites the question of banning and eliminating chemical weapons among the concrete questions in the disarmament sphere on which the attainment of agreements must be accelerated.

The talks on banning chemical weapons which are in progress in the Disarmament Committee are based on Soviet proposals on this question submitted to the second UN General Assembly special session on disarmament. The Soviet draft of the basic principles aroused interest among many states both during that session and at Disarmament Committee sessions in summer 1982.

The USSR's stance, said V.L. Israelyan, the USSR's representative to the committee, at today's session, is extremely clear and unambiguous. The Soviet Union has for many years consistently advocated an all-embracing, effective ban on chemical weapons. We are prepared to reach agreement without delay on a total ban on these weapons and the elimination of stockpiles. This was again confirmed in the recent USSR Supreme Soviet and CPSU Central Committee appeal "To the Parliaments, Governments, Political Parties and Peoples of the World."

M. Vejvoda (Czechoslovakia) stressed the great significance of the provisions of the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact states concernings tasks in curbing the arms race which are directly related to the work of the Geneva Disarmament Committee, particularly as regards the banning and destruction of chemical weapons.

Unfortunately not all the delegations to the Disarmament Committee display the political will to reach a mutually acceptable agreement on chemical weapons. The American Administration, which has set a course of chemical rearming and appropriated vast sums for this purpose, has delayed and is delaying the course of talks in the committee.

RESULTS OF 3-DAY CEMA CONFERENCE REPORTED

LD210306 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] A session of the CEMA Executive Committee concluded its work today in Moscow. For 3 days matters connected with the fulfillment of long-term specific programs were discussed at the level of deputy premier. There are now five of these programs, emcompassing virtually every important industry in the economy.

Problems connected with fulfillment of the program for energy, fuel and raw materials were discussed. The electricity industry is one of the most dynamically developing branches of the national economies of CEMA member-countries. Suffice it to say that with technical assistance from the Soviet Union, it is proposed to build in the European socialist countries and Cuba, atomic power stations with a total capacity of almost 37 million kilowatts. This will permit a saving of approximately 80 million tons of standard fuel.

The work of the Mir unified power system was also discussed.

Representatives of the European socialist countries, Vietnam, Cuba, Mongolia and the USSR also reviewed progress toward fulfillment of the measures planned for the development of transport links. It was noted that further development is planned for pipeline construction and maritime, railway and motor vehicle transport. Suffice it to say that the program of development of maritime transport provides for modernization of 22 ports and the extension of port installation on the Danube and Elbe. Joint efforts are planned for the reconstruction of the main railways connecting the Soviet Union with Hungary and Czechoslovakia. There will be new equipment for the Mongolian railways. Joint work is now under way on a number of international air routes linking our resort towns with Berlin, Budapest, Prague and Bratislava. A facility is to be built in the USSR for the repair of long-range and medium-range aircraft.

In the field of motor vehicle transport, a multilateral cooperation agreement is being implemented on the comprehensive development and reconstruction of four international roads with a total length of almost 9,000 km.

The session mapped out ways of increasing the production of electronic products and computer components. A number of other matters were also examined.

REAGAN SETS UP PROPAGANDA PLANNING COMMITTEE

LD211340 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] New York January 20 TASS -- President Reagan has issued a directive to set up a cabinet-level committee for planning "propaganda" of the administration's foreign policy, THE NEW YORK TIMES reports today. The committee, which will include Secretary of State George Shultz, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, Director of the United States Information Agency Charles Wick, will be headed by William Clark, the presidential adviser for national security affairs.

At the same time Ronald Reagan instructed expert in propaganda, United States Ambassador in Ireland Peter Dailey, his 1980 electoral campaign advertising manager, to lead an effort for propaganda backing for NATO decision on the deployment of about 600 new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

The newspaper points out that the main task of the newly formed body will be to "ensure better overall coordination of public information policy" to "combat the Soviet peace offensive" and to work out recommendations for propaganda neutralisation of such problems as the nuclear freeze movement in the United States.

The first meeting of P. Dailey's group has already been held. Taking part in it were representatives of the White House, the State Department, the Department of Defence, the United States Information Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States.

NEW YORK TIMES notes that the decision to devise "a new strategy" in the sphere of official propaganda was taken following the trip of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Western Europe in December last. George Shultz was told there that "the Western European leaders were gloomy about the prospects" for the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in 1983 because of the growing movement of protest against the United States policies. Paul Nitze, the head of the U.S. delegation at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva, now staying in Washington, at one of the meetings in the White House expressed concern that the opposition to the U.S. policy in Western Europe was to great that the missiles might not be put in place there.

In Western Germany, for instance, over half of the population, as the French television reports, comes out against the deployment of new U.S. missiles. Dissatisfaction with the course of the White House is growing in the United States itself. This was shown, specifically, by the results of the referendums on nuclear weapons freezing held last year. The idea of nuclear weapon freeze was supported by the majority of the Americans who took part in the referendums.

The position of Washington, which seeks to deploy at any cost Pershing-2 and cruise missiles on the territory of Western Europe in an effort to disrupt the existing rough balance in armaments, is particularly unsavoury against the background of the Soviet Union's constructive proposals imbued with the spirit of realism and a sense of responsibility. In these conditions the U.S. Administration intimidated with the scope of the anti-war movement and the widening protests against Washington's dangerous militaristic course is taking extraordinary measures to intensify the propaganda brainwashing of the public opinion of the United States and Western Europe.

IZVESTIYA CRITICIZES U.S. ARMS SPENDING

PM201555 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed "Rejoinder" From "The World Today" feature by Yu. Romanov: "He Is Urging Them To Fork Out"]

[Text] U.S. General B. Rogers, supreme commander in chief of the NATO allied armed forces in Europe, has announced his intention to verify and dispose of the contents of the West Europeans' pockets and purses. "Money for Arms at the Expense of Money for Social Needs" -- these West European press headlines accurately express Rogers' main idea when he spoke in the city of Casteau (Belgium). It turns out the general has already reckoned everything up. He asserts that all these numerous "arms upgrading and rearmament programs will cost the West European inhabitants only a couple of good dinners a year." The general added: "The United States is setting a fine example by reducing its social benefit programs in favor of security."

Very easy to say that about the dinners! This ease is undoubtedly explained by the fact that it was displayed by the general several thousand kilometers away from the Chicago and New York employment offices, far from the endless lines of hungry, despairing unemployed who have been convinced from their own bitter experience of the meaning of the White House's calls to "make sacrifices." Many tens of billions (!) of dollars and not just a couple of dinners have been forfeited by U.S. citizens because of the arms race the Pentagon is pursuing. But it is obviously not enough for the U.S. generals that militarization at the expense of the economy in the United States has become a calamity for millions of U.S. families; they are insisting that in West Europe too people should taste all the delights of life under the conditions of cutbacks on expenditure for social needs and mounting unemployment and, on the other hand, on top of a smoking powder keg.

RECORD LEVEL IN U.S. ARMS EXPORTS EXAMINED

LD191820 Moscow TASS in English 1415 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- According to preliminary data, the U.S. arms export last year reached the record level of 25 billion dollars.

One of the most dangerous trends that dominated in the 1970s remains the same in the 1980s and this trend is that the most modern types of offensive weapons are being supplied, it is said in an article in the magazine ASIA AND AFRICA TODAY [AZIYA I AFRIKA SEGODNYA].

The huge amount of military hardware that is spreading throughout the world and multiplied by the neocolonialist ambitions of the aggressive U.S. circles lessens more than ever before the possibility of putting the trade in lethal goods under control and enhances the growth of tension in various parts of the world. The young independent states are being increasingly drawn into the arms race, the magazine notes.

An analysis of the process of militarisation of developing countries shows that along with domestic and regional factors, such as class struggle, religious contradictions, territorial disputes inherited from the colonial past, the main cause of the drawing of these countries into the arms race is the imperialist policy of the United States and its allies that want to restore their positions in the developing states and thereby achieve control over their socio-economic development and also to direct the development of events in strategically important regions of the world into a channel that suits them. It is the purpose of modern imperialism's expansionist plans to bind these countries to it by thousands of ways so as to have unimpeded use of their natural wealth and to use their territories for its strategic purposes.

The imperialist policy directed at drawing the young states into the process of extensive militarisation is one of such methods and also an instrument of foreign policy, the magazine writes.

IZVESTIYA: KIRKPATRICK'S UN IDEAS 'OUTMODED'

PM201127 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Jan 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed "rejoinder": "Old Remedies for the New Year"]

[Text] Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. permanent representative to the United Nations, gave an interview to the U.S. weekly U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT on New Year's Eve in which she went so far as to claim that the United Nations not only does not promote international peace but, moreover, helps (?!) to heighten international tension. Mrs Kirkpatrick saw this as being caused by the fact that too many countries are allegedly involved in debating various kinds of conflict. The logic behind her reasoning is transparent. If the number of mediators in conflicts could be restricted to a small group of countries headed by the United States, Camp David-style agreements could be worked out. As for whether or not the interests of the victims of aggression and of peoples fighting for national liberation suffer in the process, this is of little concern to the U.S. representative.

In the interview Jeane Kirkpatrick intimated that Washington had "worked out a way" in which the administration plans to force countries belonging to this international association to toe the U.S. line. What way? Kirkpatrick chose not to enlarge on that score but, making an implicit threat, she intimated that countries failing to follow Washington's policy "will have to pay."

Washington appears to think that it can prescribe outmoded remedies for the world and fob it off with disproven formulas. But the days of such diktat are long gone. This, by the way, has been felt on a number of occasions by Kirkpatrick herself, who frequently has encountered unanimous opposition from the overwhelming majority of UN member-countries.

BRIEFS

MEDICAL CONFERENCE IN TASHKENT -- The Uzbek Ministry of Health has disclosed that a joint conference on cardiac diseases will be held by Soviet and American cardiac specialists in Tashkent in September. The participants in the conference will acquaint themselves with the work of the Uzbek cardiological scientific research institute. [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 20 Jan 83 GF]

PRC ANNOUNCES CUTBACK IN TRADE WITH U.S.

LD210340 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Beijing January 20 TASS -- The Chinese Government has decided to immediately stop concluding this year new contracts for import of cotton, chemical fibres and soya beans from the United States. In an official statement of a representative of the ministry of foreign economic links and foreign trade of the People's Republic of China, which was distributed by the XINHUA news agency. It is also said that China is to cut purchases of other farm products in the United States.

The measure of China's Government, it is believed at local journalist circles, is in retaliation to the recent decision of the U.S. Administration to unilaterally introduce restrictions on textile imports from the People's Republic of China. As was already reported, four rounds of the Chinese-American negotiations on a bigger volume of Chinese textile exports to the United States were to no avail.

MOSCOW TV VIEWS U.S.-PRC TRADE TENSION

LD210512 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1920 GMT 20 Jan 83

[From The World Today" program presented by political observer Vladimir Dunayev]

[Text] There is nothing unusual about Japanese-American trade skirmishes and even wars. But the Sino-American trade and customs skirmish is now being discussed everywhere. U.S. newspapers write today that Washington did not expect retaliatory countermeasures by Beijing in response to the U.S. ban on the import of a considerable quantity of Chinese textiles into America.

The Reagan administration allegedly counted on the Chinese leadership resigning itself to the sharp measures instituted against Chinese textile imports and not going as far as taking countermeasures.

This seems to be a somewhat naive explanation. The United States went as far as to break off trade and customs talks with the Chinese on the eve of the visit by Secretary of State George Shultz and obviously took into consideration the possibility of Chinese countermeasures. What is it all about? A British commentator says that the point is that there are very strong pro-Taiwan feelings in Reagan's circle; and these people, this Taiwan lobby, was simply seeking a pretext to intensify the flow of weapons to Taiwan. Perhaps this did play a part. It is known that one of the people most trusted by and closest to Reagan, Michael Deaver, is closely connected with Taiwan capital.

But it seems to me that Washington has firmly decided to export its crisis abroad. This is what it is all about. And for this purpose restrictive protectionist barriers are being imposed without any exceptions or exclusions and without taking political consequences into consideration.

BEIJING PRESS CONFERENCE ON JAPANESE WW II CRIMES

LD210242 Moscow TASS in English 1118 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Beijing January 20 TASS -- TASS correspondent Grigoriy Arslanov reports:

The horrifying picture of mass crimes committed by the Japanese military unfolded before foreign correspondents, including Soviet ones, accredited in Beijing when they visited the place of the operation of the notorious 'Detachment-731' -- a special Kwantung-Army

formation which right up to the last days of World War Two engaged in the development, testing on humans and production of bacteriological, chemical and other types of weapons of mass destruction for the purpose of their subsequent use in the war against the USSR and other countries -- allies for the anti-Hitler coalition. The visit was arranged during the foreign journalist's tour of some cities of north-east China. The tour was organized by the PRC's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The centre on preparation for bacteriological warfare was set up by the Japanese militarists in the middle of the thirties at a distance of 20 kilometres away from Harbin in the territory of six villages, the population of which was evacuated in advance. The area of the "special zone" which accommodated experimental departments and production facilities of the "detachment" was about 100 square kilometres. The center had "branches" in Linkou, Mudanjian, Sunwu and Hailar districts. There was a "special proving ground" in Anda to test on humans the agents of plague, cholera, anthrax, typhoid fever, smallpox and other lethal diseases cultivated in the centre. At the centre there was a plant for the production for porcelain bombs and shells with a bacteriological charge for the destruction of Soviet people, Chinese, Mongolians, Koreans, and other peoples of Asia. A total of three thousand people were engaged at various facilities of the "detachment".

Criminals in white gowns kept "human guinea pigs" -- Chinese students-patriots, guerrillas, activists of anti-Japanese struggle -- in the so-called "square block" with an area of about 80,000 square metres, access to which was restricted. Among the prisoners there were also Soviet citizens as well as Mongolians and Koreans. As was stated by Han Xiao, head of the office of the local administration, Soviet Communist Demchenko as well as a young Soviet woman with a child died precisely in that "block". A total of more than three thousand people were put to death there from 1939 to August 1945 during criminal experiments and tests of bacteriological weapons on humans.

In August 1945 the Japanese militarists, having a presentiment about the forthcoming end, tried to conceal their crimes, a spokesman of the local authorities pointed out. Several hundred prisoners who were in the cells were poisoned by gas. Their bodies were burned down and the ashes buried. For several days the criminals were busy burning documents. On August 10 they started blowing up the main facilities. The Japanese command specially called in combat engineers from Shenyang in aid to "Detachment-731".

When leaving the centre, the criminals released rats, the vectors of the deadly bacteria. As a result, a plague epidemic erupted in the area. Only due to urgent measures a wide spread of the epidemic was prevented. Nevertheless more than a hundred people died.

Inscriptions on the remaining buildings of the centre and the fragments of structures blown up by the criminals during the flight are the only reminder of the criminal activities of the Japanese military in the years of the occupation of north-east China. However, the criminals did not manage to fully cover up their tracks. Some of them were captured prisoner during the Soviet troops' vigorous offensive in Manchuria in August 1945 and were later tried and severely punished after a trial in Khabarovsk.

Nevertheless, a large part of criminals from "Detachment-731" headed by their killer chief, Lieutenant-General Ishii, managed to flee to Japan where they were sheltered by the U.S. occupation authorities from a just retribution. The U.S. authorities granted freedom to the war criminals in exchange for the transfer of systematized data to the Pentagon on the development of bacteriological weapons and on the results of their tests on humans. Moreover, the USA, nurturing its own plans for the establishment of domination over the world, set up cooperation with the criminals with a view to further developing the weapons of mass destruction. The weapons were used in wars which the USA conducted afterwards in Korea, Vietnam and other Asian countries.

The criminal relay race, in which the U.S. Administration picked up the baton from the hands of its yesterday's mortal enemies, continues up to this date. It threatens the life of the peoples of the whole world.

USSR GIVES EMBASSY ASHES OF PRC COMPOSER

OW200021 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] A ceremony was held at the people's home for friendship in Moscow on 19 January to turn over the urn containing the ashes of late famous Chinese composer Xian Xinghai to the Chinese Embassy in the Soviet Union. Xian Xinghai died of illness in 1945 and was buried in the Soviet Union. Kapitsa, first deputy chairman of the central council for Soviet-Chinese friendship and Soviet deputy foreign minister [title as heard], and Yang Shouzheng, Chinese ambassador to the Soviet Union in Moscow, spoke at the ceremony.

Kapitsa said: Xian Xinghai was a musician whom the Chinese people feel proud of. He was also a loyal friend of the Soviet Union. The fine relationship between our two nations will be the best way of cherishing his memory.

Also attending the ceremony to turn over the urn containing Xian Xinghai's ashes were responsible persons of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Ties With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, a representative from the city of Moscow and staff members of the Chinese Embassy in Moscow.

FURTHER REACTION TO NAKASONE'S WASHINGTON POST REMARKS

TASS Warns Against Military Buildup

LD201718 Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- TASS political observer Boris Chekhonin writes:

The U.S.-Japanese summit talks have failed, acute differences remain -- such are the assessments that appear these days in the Western press which sums up the results of the dialogue between Ronald Reagan and Yasuhiro Nakasone that ended in the United States.

The question arises in what degree such assessments are correct. Even a cursory analysis of the results of the Washington meeting shows that such conclusions clearly have a tendentious and onesided character. Certain circles in the West, apparently seek by stirring up the hue and cry about the "acute differences" that remain in matters of commerce and the policy of protectionism to distract the attention of the world public from the arrangements achieved in Washington about a new consolidation of the political and military alliance between Washington and Tokyo. Such arrangements are fraught with further serious complication of the international situation in Asia and the Far East.

Many things show that such arrangements have been reached. Correspondent of the U.S. television company NBC John Chancellor, assessing the political aspects of the Washington talks, said that the Reagan administration had arranged and conducted the visit with the skill that it did not show often in the sphere of international relations. It is easy to see in what the U.S. "skill" lied. President Reagan and U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger demanded, and not with success, that Japan, contrary to its Constitution, take the unprecedented measures to step up military preparations. These demands found the positive response of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

He not only informed Washington of Tokyo's decision to enhance the allocations for military needs in 1983 by 6.5 percent but also said in an interview to WASHINGTON POST that he is in favour of turning Japan into the United States' "unsinkable aircraft carrier." Well, if Japan's military allocations continue growing at the same rate, the Japanese Army will indeed become one of the strongest in the world, But some hot headed politicians should, apparently, recall that "unsinkable aircraft carriers" do not exist in the present technological age.

Another thing, too caused a serious concern of the world community. The ruling party of Japan started working out "emergency legislation." It is aimed at providing for the Japanese military command the "legal basis" for the widening of the sphere of armed operations up to one thousand miles away from Japan's coasts. Moreover, Japan's command will be able without consultations with the prime minister to take independently decisions about the opening of combat operations in the zone and also about "blocking" the most important straits in the Far East.

It is clear that the adoption of this "legislation" will enable the United States to involve Japan deeper, contrary to the Constitution, into the Pentagon's adventuristic designs in Asia and the Far East, to push the country to a dangerous road of confrontation with neighbouring states, above all with countries of South East Asia which experienced the effects of Japan's aggression in the years of the Second World War. And recent history shows that this road cannot bring anything but suffering and grief to the Japanese people too.

As to the Soviet Union it will surely draw the appropriate conclusions to guarantee the security of its Far Eastern borders.

Japan-U.S. Talks Viewed

LD201618 Moscow TASS in English 1521 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 20 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Pakhomov writes:

Talks have ended in the White House between President Ronald Reagan of the United States and the Prime Minister of Japan Yasuhiro Nakasone, who is here on an official visit. The Vice President of the United States George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and other leading members of the American Government took part in the talks. Such questions as the American-Japanese trade contradictions, the economic crisis experienced by the West, the general situation in the world with the emphasis on the situation in Asia, Japan's military program and East-West relations were discussed.

During the talks Washington, which is making the emphasis on whipping up international tension, put pressure on Japan so that it would further militarise and expand its military role in Asia and the Far East. Addressing correspondents, Ronald Reagan stated that Japan had agreed to do more to "share the burden" of the military preparations of the United States and its allies and assume the "obligation" to play an "increasing role" in this.

As is known, under Washington's pressure Japan has decided already under the present new government to increase the military budget in the 1983 fiscal year by 6.5 percent and to hand over to the United States modern technology that may have military application. The results of Nakasone's talks in Washington demonstrated that Tokyo is giving in to Washington's desire to draw Japan deeper into its militaristic orbit although this contradicts the provisions of the Japanese Constitution and the interests of the Japanese people.

Numerous trade and economic problems were posed in a very acute manner at the talks. When discussing them the sides clearly failed to agree on a common denominator. The United States, which has long lost its once strong positions in the world markets, does not conceal its irritation that last year its deficit in the trade with Japan exceeded 20 billion dollars.

At the talks with Nakasone, Reagan called for a removal of the obstacles that impede the appearance of American commodities on Japanese markets, in other words he demanded that Tokyo waive its interests. In reply, as it follows from statements by American and Japanese officials, Washington was openly told that there are things which Japan cannot do considering the political and economic situation in the country and the large-scale opposition to Washington's trade expansion. Nakasone, the ASSOCIATED PRESS writes, put up a resistance to Washington's pressure and refused to make new trade concessions.

On the whole the talks did not remove the differences between the two countries, observers wrote. As it was admitted by Reagan himself, the contradictions in the field of trade and economy continue to weigh down heavily on American-Japanese relations. In his turn Nakasone noted that even after the talks, "frictions" remain in these relations and that many people in both countries are concerned by their present state.

Tokyo January 20 TASS -- Nakasone's statement in Washington about readiness to expand Japan's military role and to turn the country into an "unsinkable aircraft carrier" of American strategy in Asia "opens the road to unlimited military cooperation between Tokyo and Washington", writes the newspaper ASAHI. In its turn MAINICHI notes that Tokyo's new commitments to the Reagan administration in the military field evoke deep alarm not only in Japan but also in a number of other Asian countries concerned by the obvious signs of the revival of Japanese militarism.

Korolev on Nakasone Visit

LD210412 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Vladimir Korolev commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone have completed their talks in Washington. The talks focused on Japan's military buildup and the role the country is to play in promoting America's expansionist ambitions. Both before and during Mr Nakasone's visit, the American press quoted the Washington officialdom as claiming that Japan must act as an instrument of America's policy for Asia. In other words, Tokyo is to play the role of a police state that would help Washington realise its aggressive plans directed against peace-loving nations in the region. From what President Reagan told newsmen, he was pleased with the outcome of the talks. Washington got a pledge from Tokyo to foot a greater part of the bill for America's war preparations.

Not that the Japanese premier had come to the United States with nothing to offer. Earlier he visited South Korea, promising $4 billion to the dictator Chon Tu-hwan. The sum, according to news agencies, will go to further militarize South Korea, which forms a military alliance together with the United States and Japan in Asia, the Pacific and the Indian Oceans. Another gift the Japanese visitor had to offer was Tokyo's decision to allow the United States unlimited access to its most up-to-date technologies, something that the Pentagon intends to use to develop new weaponry. As for the recent 6 and 1/2 percent increase in Japan's military spending for 1983 fiscal year approved by the Japanese Cabinet, Washington said it was sure that Tokyo would increase this spending still further. In short Japan is going full steam ahead to militarize, contrary to its Constitution.

Its Armed Forces already rank among the strongest in Asia. When Washington and Tokyo agreed to extend the Japanese Navy's area of operation by 1,000 miles off Japan's coast, this posed an immediate threat to the nations of the Far East, the western Pacific and Southeast Asia. In voicing the concern of hundreds of millions who suffered from Japanese aggression in World War II, the Indian magazine MAINSTREAM wonders if the scene is being laid for another Japanese aggression in Asia.

The American and Japanese mass media, commenting on the talks, give prominence to the two countries' differences in trade, but this can hardly distract world public opinion from the chief purpose of Mr Nakasone's visit. Japan's involvement in America's militarist designs poses a threat to Asian nations and undermines world peace.

Japanese Press Concern Cited

LD211016 Moscow TASS in English 0908 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Tokyo January 21 TASS -- After completing talks in Washington with the leaders of the U.S. Administration, Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone today returns to Tokyo. Summing up the results of his overseas visit, many observers of the local papers voice the shared opinion that the new commitments to the United States, which were undertaken by Nakasone, mean that Japan will be drawn even deeper in the global strategy of the White House and that they open the way to unrestricted military cooperation of the two allies bound by a "security treaty".

The newspaper ASAHI says that "the prime minister did not only reaffirm Japan's responsibility for the defence of the 1,000-mile sea lanes zone, he also listed the buildup of the Armed Forces for blocking the sea straits adjacent to the Japanese isles among the goals of his Cabinet."

Nakasone's declaration of the need to turn Japan into an "unsinkable aircraft-carrier" caused a veritable shock among the country's mass media and political circles.

According to press reports, a number of highly placed officials who are members of the Liberal Democratic Party sharply criticised the premier's pronouncements. They declared, in particular, that such commitments have shocked the world public and are prompting it to think that Japan is being turned into a military power.

The newspaper MAINICHI sums up the results of Nakasone's talks with President Reagan and other Washington administration officials as "dangerous" and emphasises that "the prime minister's statements about enhancing Japan's military capability are causing not even surprise, but fear." "Apparently, Nakasone has forgotten the bitter lessons of World War II," the paper states with unconcealed anxiety.

This concern is shared by TOKYO SHIMBUN which says that the results of the Japanese-U.S. summit have created the impression that Tokyo is being drawn into Washington's military strategy. "The arms buildup with a view to turning Japanese territory into a stronghold of this strategy is inadmissible, since this contradicts the peaceful provisions of the country's Constitution," the newspaper writes.

JAPAN MAKES MILITARY, ECONOMIC CONCESSIONS TO U.S.

PM201529 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jan Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by Correspondent K. Rashidov under the rubric "International Commentary": "Concessions to Washington"]

[Text] Tokyo [No date given] -- To judge from press reports and the mass protest demonstrations which are continuing unabated on the streets of Tokyo and other cities, the Japanese public is seriously worried. Political observers here stress that there are more than enough reasons for this. It emerges from reports reaching the newspapers from government sources that Prime Minister Y. Nakasone's official visit to Washington marks new, very substantial concessions to the United States on a number of very important issues. The Japanese Government's decisions in this direction, in the opinion of the majority of commentators, are becoming a very heavy and unpleasant burden to the Japanese economy and policy.

Note is also being made of the promptness and explicitness which, despite the resolute protest from the opposition parties and the population, have accompanied the implementation of the course announced by the new Cabinet, of which all-around cooperation with the United States was cited as the "cornerstone."

This applies primarily to Japan's military budget, in which the Pentagon is demanding an all-around increase, linking it with not only the expansion of Japan's combat might but also the shifting to it of part of the "defense" functions in the Pacific region.

The military expenditure approved recently by the Japanese Government for [fiscal] 1983, which begins 1 April, leaves no doubt about what the local press has called an obvious tilt toward militarization. This expenditure has been increased 6.5 percent by comparison with last year and totals a record sum for postwar years -- 2.75 trillion yen. At the same time the new state budget has lowered or virtually frozen expenditure on education, social security, public works and much else. This was what the United States was seeking and ultimately achieved, the Japanese newspapers note in their commentaries.

Another important question whose solution the White House is expecting is the handing over of Japanese military technology to the United States. This problem too, the Japanese press reports, has already been resolved at a joint session of the Cabinet and leadership of the ruling Japanese Liberal Democratic Party. The U.S. military will thus gain access to the secret files of Japanese engineers and designers and to the technology necessary to produce modern arms. And that, ASAHI stresses, would contradict the spirit of the Constitution in operation in the country.

And finally, the new Cabinet examined and approved a number of measures aimed at the further liberalization of the Japanese market, which the United States and Japan's other Western trading partners are actively seeking. These measures provide not only for another reduction in customs duties but an easing of other rules on imports into the country.

It is not hard to identify the threat which these concessions in the "trade war" present to Japan if you consider that, like the whole of the West, Japan has entered a period of grave financial and economic difficulties. They have already led to a reduction of the population's incomes, a lowering of its living standard, a rise in prices and record number of unemployed.

The country's broad public is resolutely demanding that the Japanese ruling circles abandon the course of following in the wake of U.S. policy and act with consideration for the nation's genuine interests.

JAPANESE OFFICIAL ASSESSES JAPAN-USSR TRADE

LD210318 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- Seichi Yakokawa, president of the Association for Japanese-Soviet Trade, has expressed regret over the present state of Japanese-Soviet relations which, in his view, "do not meet the wishes of the peoples of the two countries". "The so-called 'economic sanctions' with regard to the Soviet Union are one of obstacles to setting up fruitful goodneighbourliness," he writes in an article published in the newspaper TRUD. "Responsibility for the pursuance of such policy also rests with the Japanese side. History teaches that the way to normal and good diplomatic and political relations lies through mutually beneficial trade-and-economic contacts. Aware of that, we representatives of the Association for Japanese-Soviet Trade make efforts to overcome the obstacles artificially erected under the pressure of the U.S. Administration and strive to broaden in every way friendship and cooperation with the neighbouring people".

Seichi Yokokawa recalled that the Association for Japanese-Soviet Trade has been in existence for 16 years already. The number of participating companies and firms, of which there are now 53, grows from year to year, he pointed out. Goods turnover and the number of their deals with Soviet trade organizations grow. By developing trade our firms participate in such an important cause as the deepening of mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of our countries.

The president of the association expressed the conviction that Japan's trade-and-economic relations with the USSR have a great future. Japan has what to sell to the Soviet Union. In this connection relations of mutual supplementation of the economic structures of the two states could be highly effective. Unfortunately, we now encounter the opposite trend.

Having pointed out that last year the country's goods turnover in trade with the USSR accounted for almost 1.8 percent of the aggregate volume of Japan's trade with foreign countries, Seichi Yakokawa pointed out that this is an abnormal and unnatural state of affairs. One would like to hope that awareness of this will grow among representatives of the business world of Japan.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON GROMYKO'S VISIT TO GDR

Gromyko, Honecker Hold Talks

LD201552 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Berlin January 20 TASS -- A meeting was held here today between general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the State Council of the German Democratic Republic Erich Honecker and member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, on an official friendly visit to the GDR.

Erich Honecker and Andrey Gromyko had a conversation on questions of further developing and deepening relations between the USSR and the GDR, as well as on some topical international problems. The conversation was held in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and complete identity of views.

Gromyko's Luncheon Speech

LD202240 Moscow TASS in English 1647 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Berlin, January 20 TASS -- "As it was recently stressed by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov questions of strengthening friendship and developing cooperation with the fraternal countries invariably have held and will hold a special, priority place in the Soviet Union's international policy," it was stated today by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, who is in the GDR on an official friendly visit. He made a speech at a luncheon held in his honour by the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, chairman of the Council of State of the GDR Erich Honecker. Andrey Gromyko said that "the unity of socialist states has always been their main strength and weapon. The greater is the importance that it acquires now when the aggressive imperialist circles are building up their attempts to gain ground on socialism, to achieve military superiority, when they are dangerously aggravating the international situation."

"The firmness and reliability of socialism's positions in the world of today, its confidence in its strength, its firm resolve to uphold peace in the world were demonstrated very convincingly by the recent meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of Warsaw Treaty member states," the minister noted.

"The Political Declaration adopted in Prague," Andrey Gromyko went on, "concerns most various aspects of international life. But it has one aim -- to erect an insurmountable dam against war, to put the development of events back into the normal channel of detente and the mutually advantageous cooperation of states. This is a genuine document of peace and it has already evoked wide-scale response, found itself in the focus of world politics. Special note should be made of the proposal contained in the declaration to conclude between the states of the Warsaw Treaty and the NATO countries a treaty on the mutual non-use of military force. The foundation of such a treaty should be formed by the commitments by the participants in both alliances not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional arms against each other. The socialist countries set forth this proposal being fully aware of the responsibility that rests on both groupings for their policy in international affairs. It was submitted, as it is said, with a clear conscience.

There is no such people, no such state that would lose anything or would be impinged upon in any way in the event of the fulfillment of this proposal. Everybody stands to gain because the cause of peace will stand to gain."

"Of course, the minister emphasized, talks are required in order to bring the noble idea of a non-aggression pact to its logical conclusion. It is important however that these talks should not get into a bureaucratic rut, that their participants should be imbued with the sense of their high responsibility for the destiny of peace in Europe and in the whole world. Representatives of the Warsaw Treaty countries are prepared to commence at any time the discussion of this initiative with representatives of the NATO states so as to give it within the shortest period of time the concrete form of a document of international law."

Touching on the plans to deploy American medium-range missiles on the territory of a number of West European countries, above all in the FRG, Andrey Gromyko said: "The appearance near the borders of the socialist community of new American nuclear weapons capable within just a few minutes of reaching vitally important centres of the USSR and its allies would mean a drastic change in favour of the West of the presently existing military-strategic equilibrium in Europe. Quite naturally this would place the states of the Warsaw Treaty before the need to show concern for effective counter measures. And to this question, naturally, we devoted the main attention to the conversations with the FRG.

In this connection the minister said: "The opinion we have formed about the present West German leadership's one-sided approach to this problem has not yet been dispelled. When declaring in support of the unrealistic line of the United States at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva, the West German leadership taking its cue from the lack of results of these talks, together with the United States, works for the deployment of the new American missiles on the territory of the FRG."

Andrey Gromyko stressed that there is a way out of the existing situation, "but it is not in the launching of a new cycle of the nuclear arms race in Europe but in the radical reduction of these arms on the basis of the principle of equality and equal security. This is exactly the crux of the Soviet proposals, of the USSR's approach to the talks in general."

Honecker's Luncheon Speech

LD202228 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Berlin January 20 TASS -- "The development of the German Democratic Republic and its international prestige confirm again and again that the inviolable fraternal alliance with the Soviet Union is a reliable foundation of our successful advance along the road of socialism and peace. By steadily strengthening this alliance we simultaneously facilitate the consolidation of the socialist community and the stabilisation of peace in the European Continent", general secretary the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the Council of State of the GDR Erich Honecker stated here today. He made a speech at a luncheon held in honor of Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, who is on an official friendly visit in the GDR.

Erich Honecker noted that the "more aggressive imperialist circles, first of all the United States, are increasingly aggravating the international situation and threatening to plunge mankind into nuclear war.

"But it is possible to put an end to this policy of confrontation and arms race. The proposals contained in the Prague Political Declaration open considerable possibilities for this. To treat the proposals of the Warsaw Treaty member states with the necessary seriousness -- such should be the approach of any government with a sense of its responsibility. These proposals create a solid basis for making 1983 the turning point in the development of the international situation".

"The strong positive response evoked by these proposals in all continents show how deeply they accord with the hopes and aspirations for the peoples", Erich Honecker stressed. "Even those circles whose policy brought about the aggravation of the international situation cannot ignore this. Especially the proposal of our alliance addressed to NATO to conclude a treaty on the mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace plays a tremendous role in the international discussion. Those who think realistically see in this a very important step towards ensuring peace and solving the problem of disarmament".

"Together with the USSR and other fraternal countries the GDR will bend every effort to achieve the aims set in the Prague Political Declaration. In this the GDR is prepared to interact with all political and social forces irrespective of their political cooperation of states and peoples. Nothing is more important than peace."

Addressing Andrey Gromyko, Erich Honecker said further: "We have learned with satisfaction that in connection with your visit to Bonn influential politicians of the Federal Republic of Germany have stated that they also have a sense of responsibility for peace and peaceful cooperation along the dividing line between the two social systems, between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO. To do everything to ensure peace in Europe has been and remains the main content of our Socialist German state's foreign policy. A similar approach by the other side could only benefit peace and detente".

"Relations of goodneighbourhood between the GDR and the FRG are of considerable importance for the situation in Europe and in the world. As in the past, the GDR will come out for normal inter-state relations of peaceful coexistence to the advantage of both states and peoples. But those who are for the deployment of new United States nuclear weapons in Western Europe destabilise peace and let slip the possibility of multilateral goodneighbourly cooperation. I would like to hope that a reaction in the spirit of responsibility and reason is forthcoming to the new proposals of the Soviet Union on the limitation and reduction of nuclear weapons".

"We have learned with satisfaction the Soviet side's information about its proposals on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe. We regret that progresses at these talks [as received] of such importance for mankind has been blocked by Washington's destructive position".

"On behalf of the party and state leadership of the GDR I would like to state that the GDR fully and wholly approves and supports the USSR's principled line at the talks. If the United States ended its tactics of procrastination at the talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe and demonstrated by deeds readiness to search for a fair agreement in accordance with the principle of equality and equal security this would be in the interests of the peoples of our continent", the GDR leader said.

Gromyko Ends Visit

LD210956 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Berlin January 21 -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, upon completing his stay in Berlin, left for Moscow today.

He has been in the German Democratic Republic on an official friendly visit at the invitation of Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, chairman of the GDR State Council.

At the airport, Comrade Gromyko was seen off by Axen, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee; GDR Foreign Minister Fishcer; and other officials. Among the seeing-off party was Abrasimov, USSR ambassador in the GDR.

EAST GERMAN REPORTAGE ON GROMYKO VISIT TO GDR

For East German media reportage of the visit to GDR by USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrey Gromyko, including his talks with Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR State Council and general secretary of the SED Central Committee, see the German Democratic Republic section of the 20 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

ROMANIAN LEADERSHIP APPROVES PRAGUE RESULTS

PM201519 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "A Firm Basis"]

[Text] Bucharest, 18 Jan -- The RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee and the Romanian State Council and government, at a joint session, fully approved the activity of the Romanian delegation headed by N. Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP and president of Romania, at the conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee in Prague.

A report published here notes that the RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee and the Romanian State Council and government approved the Political Declaration adopted in Prague. They gave a high assessment of the new peace initiatives put forward by the socialist community countries in the declaration and stressed the great significance of the proposal it contains on concluding a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and on maintaining relations of peace between the Warsaw Pact states and the NATO states.

The Political Declaration, the report notes, is a firm basis for further joint actions in defense of peace and security, for disarmament and averting the threat of nuclear war and for continuing the detente process and developing cooperation between the peoples of Europe and the world.

The report notes the great significance of the document's conclusions and considerations on strengthening security in Europe and the proposals on creating nuclear-free zones in northern Europe, the Balkans and other parts of the continent.

The joint session also stressed the significance of the need indicated in the declaration to expand economic, scientific and technical cooperation and production sharing on a long-term basis between the socialist countries within the CEMA framework.

MEETINGS COMMEMORATE WARSAW LIBERATION ANNIVERSARY

Moscow Soiree

PM201321 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Marking a Glorious Anniversary"]

[Text] The joint participation of Soviet and Polish troops in the liberation of Warsaw was a vivid chapter in the annals of Soviet-Polish combat collaboration and the history of the two peoples' struggle against the common enemy. This was stated in Moscow on 17 January at a soiree devoted to the 38th anniversary of the Polish capital's liberation from the fascist German aggressors.

The speakers noted the successful development of multifaceted cooperation between Soviet and Polish working people. It was stressed that the force cementing the unity of the two countries, parties and peoples is their common Marxist-Leninist world outlook and loyalty to the principles of proletarian internationalism.

We will never forget that the liberation of our country and capital was possible thanks to the heroic Soviet Army, Commander B. Machon, deputy Army, Navy and Air Force attache to the Polish Embassy in the USSR, stated. The USSR's assistance facilitated the postwar restoration of Poland's national economy, and it is invaluable to us in overcoming the present difficulties.

Taking part in the soiree were pilot-cosmonaut of the USSR G.T. Beregovoy, chairman of the Soviet-Polish friendship society central board; and also S. Kociolek, Polish ambassador to the USSR.

Warsaw Celebrates

PM201521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Marking a Glorious Anniversary"]

[Text] Warsaw, 17 Jan -- The capital of People's Poland today marked the 38th anniversary of liberation from the fascist German aggressors. On a January day in 1945 units of the Soviet Army and the first Polish Army brought freedom to the city on the Vistula, which had been ravaged by the Hitlerite occupying forces.

Warsaw, reborn from the ruins and the ashes, greeted its festival decked with state flags and banners. Thousands of the inhabitants honored the memory of the Soviet and Polish heroes who gave their lives to liberate the Polish people from the fascist yoke. Wreaths and flowers were laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and at monuments and memorials. A ceremonial meeting was held in Warsaw to mark the festival and there were meetings between war veterans and workers and young servicemen in the People's Polish Army.

The collectives of enterprises in the capital have started the New Year steadily, journalists were told by M. Wozniak, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Warsaw party voivodship committee. This enables us to make positive predictions for the future. Warsaw looks to tomorrow with confidence.

FRANCE'S CHEYSSON TO VISIT USSR IN LATE FEB

LD210011 Moscow TASS in English 1851 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- The Minister of External Relations of France Claude Cheysson will pay an official visit to the Soviet Union in the second half of February at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

LITERATURNAYA GAZETA INTERVIEWS FRG'S BAHR

PM181645 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 2, 12 Jan 83 (Signed to Press 10 Jan 83) p 9

[Interview with Egon Bahr by correspondent A. Frenkin: "The Soviet Initiatives Are a Step Forward": first two paragraphs are LITERATURNAYA GAZETA introduction]

[Text] Bonn [no date given] -- What is your assessment of the significance of the peace initiatives put forward in the report by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Yu.V. Andropov at the ceremonial meeting celebrating the 60th anniversary of the USSR and in the Warsaw Pact states' Political Declaration?

LITERATURNAYA GAZETA correspondent A. Frenkin's question was answered by Egon Bahr, prominent figure in the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD), chairman of the Bundestag subcommittee on disarmament and arms control and member of the SPD delegation at the talks in Moscow.

[Answer] As a result of the proposals put forward by Mr Yu.V. Andropov there has been a change for the better in the general situation. First, I am referring to the Soviet Union's readiness to hold talks on concluding an agreement which would envisage renouncing the first use of conventional as well as nuclear arms. As is known, the West has hitherto complained that while proposing the renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union has stressed the need for the further development of conventional armaments. It is now clear that both aspects of the latter are covered, although this fact was not reflected in the Western countries' official reaction.

Second, in connection with the balance of conventional arms between the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries the desire was expressed to limit these armaments and to seek mutually acceptable solutions. Now the West must, for its part, respond by putting forward proposals on talks on the overall balance of conventional armaments in Europe.

Third, the new Soviet compromise proposal on reducing medium-range missiles is a very important step. Those who are seriously interested in results at the Geneva talks should welcome this principled initiative.

When you consider the problem of arms reduction you are also faced with the following fundamental question -- that of taking into account the British and French nuclear forces, which comprise around 200 units. As a result of the Soviet proposal something more than a straightforward balancing of French and British systems would be achieved. It is a matter of taking these British and French systems into consideration. It is now clear that London and Paris do not want other people to discuss their nuclear armaments. Naturally, the French themselves should hold talks on French nuclear weapons and the British on British nuclear weapons. But if no one is going to do this then I believe that the Russians have every right to possess the weapons they deem necessary as a counterbalance to France and Britian.

The aim of the Geneva talks is a long-term settlement of current problems not a temporary one. And this means that one must also consider both French and British plans for subsequent years, which are geared to rapid arms growth.

America and the USSR must agree on how and at what level British and French nuclear missiles are to be taken into account. If the Americans maintain that they are talking in global terms then the "zero option" should actually be global: that is, no medium-range missiles anywhere at all. Neither American nor Soviet, nor French, nor British, nor Chinese. The "zero option" should apply to all. But the Americans cannot negotiate for Beijing, for London or for Paris. They have no authority to seek a global "zero option." They can only hold talks on equilibrium with the USSR.

FRG Defense Minister Woerner has put forward the new argument that the British and French nuclear armaments are not intended for the defense of the FRG and are not capable of performing this task. But I would say that to Moscow these nuclear missiles are a reality and they must be taken into account when assessing the balance of forces in Europe between West and East. It is dangerous for Woerner to argue that without sufficiently long-range U.S. "intermediate" ["sredniy"] missiles the FRG will be left defenseless if the 150 Soviet SS-20 missiles remain. As a matter of fact, it follows from this that we are defenseless at the moment, but no one can really maintain that. There is nothing more important than peace -- no one has a right to forget that.

A security system can be created on condition that all states, those representing the different blocs or those which are not members of blocs, participate in this. Dr H.J. Vogel (SPD candidate for the chancellorship -- LITERATURNAYA GAZETA editor's note) would like to use this idea of common interest and participation as the basis for his conversations in Moscow.

The proposals put forward by Yu.V. Andropov and the tenets contained in the Prague declaration are undoubtedly positive in their intent. They are of such interest and importance that they must be fully appraied and understood. Therefore our delegation is expecting detailed conversations in Moscow on a wide range of questions.

...When I am asked about my feelings as I leave for Moscow, I cannot conceal my sadness: L.I. Brezhnev is no longer alive. The ardent desire to ensure peace, to which he devoted his tremendous vitality, left us who talked with him with a feeling of profound confidence. I remain faithful to this memory and people like that I never forget.

The fact that the course toward detente and safeguarding peace remains the fulcrum of Soviet foreign policy is a factor of enormuous importance. No one should doubt -- according to my understanding of the proposals put forward by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary -- that this course will be implemented firmly and decisively.

IZVESTIYA CRITICIZES FRG TV 'IDEOLOGICAL SABOTAGE'

PM181109 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 11 January, Morning Edition, carries on page 5 a 1,000-word correspondent A. Grigoryants Bonn dispatch entitled "TV Incitement." The article, under the "Ideological Sabotage" rubric, concerns a twice-monthly FRG TV program (ZDF-Magazin) which, Grigoryants asserts, broadcasts anti-Soviet and pro-U.S. material based on "propaganda ammunition" supplied by the Frankfurt-based "Society for the Defense of Human Rights," an organization allegedly financed by the CIA. In addition to attempts at "discrediting" Soviet-FRG cooperation, the program's organizers, in Grigoryants' view, also support "anti-state activity" in socialist countries. Grigoryants also links the show's moderator with support for Christian Social Union leader Strauss.

COMPARISONS OF GROMYKO BONN PRESS CONFERENCE

TASS Russian Version

Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 1305 GMT on 19 January carries a report on USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's 18 January Bonn press conference. This version has been compared with the Moscow TASS English item published in the 20 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages G 1 through G 7, and was found to be identical except for the following variations:

Page G 1, paragraph 2, line 5 the TASS Russian version reads:

...not all conversations have yet been held, it is possible...(subbing "have yet been" for "were"; supplying tense variation)

Same page, same paragraph, penultimate line TASS Russian reads:

...to say something for information on the basis...(adding words "for information")

Page G 3, paragraph 4, line 5 the TASS version reads:

Can you say with what intention do the Soviet Union...(supplying alternative wording)

Same page, paragraph 6, line 3 TASS Russian reads:

...that? I think not.

Secondly, it is...(picking up paragraph 7, first line; supplying alternative wording)

Page G 4, paragraph 9, line 2 the TASS Russian version reads:

...to scrap them all it is appropriate...(supplying additional word "all")

Same page, same paragraph, last line TASS Russian reads:

...on Europe, if concluded, will not embrace...(supplying word variation)

Page G 5, paragraph 3, first line the TASS Russian version reads:

...shelving the SALT II treaty. It has gone...(subbing "treaty" for "accord")

Page G 6, first paragraph, last line the TASS Russian version reads:

...a strategic arms accord.

Question by a...(picking up second paragraph, first line; subbing "accord" for "agreement")

Same page, paragraph 5, first line TASS Russian reads:

...original question -- a mixed one. I have...(exchanging "mixed" for "MIRVed"; supplying word variation)

Same page, paragraph 6, line 7 TASS Russian reads:

...need for preparation. It follows that it is necessary...(adding words "it follows")

Same page, last paragraph, line 2 the TASS Russian version reads:

...with all peoples, a policy of ...(subbing "peoples" for "nations"; supplying word variation)

Page G 7, paragraph 2, last line TASS Russian reads:

Thank you for your attention. (supplying additional words "for your attention"; ending item)

PRAVDA Version

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 20 January, Second Edition, carries on page 4 a TASS report entitled "A.A. Gromyko's Press Conference in Bonn." Comparison with the Moscow TASS version published in the 20 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages G 1 through G 7, reveals the two items to be identical except for the following variations:

In every case where a correspondent asks a question of Gromyko, PRAVDA does not identify the correspondent, but merely introduces the question with the notation "Question."

Page G 4, paragraph 3, last line the PRAVDA version publishes as is, deleting editorial notation.

Page G 5, paragraph 6, line 6 PRAVDA Russian reads:

...retain such missiles, and in the quantity which it then...(subbing "and" for "at" and deleting editorial notation)

Same page, paragraph 7, line 2 PRAVDA Russian reads:

...question of our "heavy" missiles and the...(supplying quotation marks)

Page G 6, paragraph 5, first line the PRAVDA version reads:

...original question -- a MIRVed one, as it were [vrode by s razdelyayushchimisya golovnymi chastyami]. I have already dwelt on strategic arms talks. I can only add, perhaps, that the optimism recently seeped out by...(adding "as it were"; supplying vernacular; adding "talks" and "recently")

Page G 7, paragraph 2, only line is omitted in the PRAVDA version (deleting "thank you")

STABILITY OF USSR FINNISH-RELATIONS PROMOTED

LD150950 Moscow in Finnish to Finland 1630 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Many statesmen and politicians in the Nordic countries have unanimously described the interview given to HELSINGIN SANOMAT by the supreme allied commander in Europe, the U.S. General Bernard Rogers, as crude interference in Finland's internal affairs and in Soviet foreign policy in the north. Our observer, (Leonid Kartsev), writes about this:

Let it be noted at once that the U.S. lien for accelerating the arms race and confrontation with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community cannot but have a negative effect on some West European countries. After submitting to the dictates of the United States, these countries begin to limit their relations with the socialist countries.

Nothing like this has taken place in Soviet-Finnish relations, which are lasting because they are not affected by fluctuations in the international climate.

What is the reason for this? Above all, the stable and lasting cooperation between the Soviet Union and Finland in the field of politics. Both the Soviets and Finns have on several occasions stressed that this cooperation is based on the YYA Treaty [Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance] signed by the Soviet Union and Finland 35 years ago. During all these years, the treaty has reliably served the Soviet and Finnish peoples and promoted the strengthening of peace and security both in the north and in the whole of Europe.

Despite this, the trans-Atlantic enemies of Soviet-Finnish friendship are frequently trying to carry out backdoor raids against this friendship because they are greatly concerned about Finland's ability to ensure its security, you see. Finnish statesmen and politicians have effectively rejected such attacks. Premier Kalevi Sorsa, in an interview to the MAAILMA JA ME periodical, thus highly appraised the YYA Treaty and said that this treaty must eventually be extended without any changes. As we know, President Mauno Koivisto holds a similar view on the matter.

In 1982, Kovisto entered the presidency, succeeding the great Finnish statesman, Urho Kekkonen, who had made an important contribution to the creation and development of Soviet-Finnish neighborly relations. At that time, many predictions were made in the West and in Finland about the future relations between the Soviet Union and Finland. Apparently, the past year has given a satisfactory answer to this. The facts speak for themselves: In 1982, President Mauno Koivisto visited the Soviet Union on four different occasions, Soviet Premier Nikolay Tikhonov made an official visit to Finland, a Finnish Diet delegation visited the Soviet Union, and the relations between Soviet and Finnish government-level and social organizations continued to develop successfully. It is difficult to overestimate the effect of these relations on the development of Soviet-Finnish friendship. They gave a strong impetus to cooperation in all fields, including trade and economics.

Thus, for instance, in the middle of last December, the protocol of the 27th session of the standing intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish Economic Cooperation Commission was signed. The commission decided to begin in 1983 to compile the draft of the basic outlines for the 1986-90 trade and payments agreements, and the draft of a protocol for extending the long-term program for developing and deepening trade and economic, industrial and scientific-technical cooperation until the year 2000. These examples show that the parties do not intend to stop at the level already achieved but will undertake measures for ensuring mutual cooperation in this field in future. There are very good preconditions for this.

It is presently said in Western Europe that the year 1983 may be a decisive year from the viewpoint of the political and military-strategic development of Europe. The question is being asked: Will Washington succeed in deploying its cruise and Pershing II missiles in some countries of Western Europe, or will the peoples of the world be able to bring to nothing these terrible plans? An alternative to these plans are good relations and mutually advantageous cooperation between all European countries. Soviet-Finnish relations are playing a constructive role in this respect. However, the U.S. and NATO militaristic circles are not pleased with this; this naturally arouses clear anger in these circles.

Political circles in many countries, including Finland, drew attention to the fact that at the Kremlin reception to mark the 60th anniversary of the USSR, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Yuriy Andropov, stressed the importance of stable and good relations and mutually advantageous cooperation, which have developed between the Soviet Union and Finland over several decades. Yuriy Andropov described these relations as a clear example of the viability of peaceful coexistence between countries with different social systems. In our restless era, this doctrine shows to mankind the only reliable way to a peaceful future.

FINLAND EASES BALTIC STATES' IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

WA211700 HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 11 Jan 83 p 9

[Text] The precautionary restrictions caused by the foot-and-mouth epidemic in the Baltic countries have been eased in Finland. On Monday [10 January], a decision came into force, according to which the import prohibition would no longer affect living plants or vegetables, fruits, root crops and potatoes.

Imports of such things as animal products from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are still prohibited without a license from the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

The Veterinary Department decided on the import restrictions at the end of November, when it had received information of the presence of foot-and-mouth disease in Estonia. Already earlier in the fall, reports had come of the disease in Latvia and Lithuania.

The Soviet Union has stated that precautionary measures there were able to be ended already before Chirstmas. For this reason, Finland too has taken steps to ease the import restrictions.

Foot-and-mouth disease was last experienced in Finland in 1959.

KUZNETSOV RECEIVES FINNISH ENVOY'S CREDENTIALS

PM181257 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Credentials Presented"]

[Text] Aarno Eino Karhilo, Finnish ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, presented his credentials to V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in the Kremlin on 13 January.

After the presentation of credentials and an exchange of speeches between V.V. Kuznetsov and A. Karhilo, a friendly talk took place with the participation of T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister.

IZVESTIYA CITES OPPOSITION TO U.S. ICELAND BASES

PM201627 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent N. Ivanov: "Icelandic Reportage": "Atlantic Recluse"]

[Excerpt] Reykjavic [no date igven] In August last year, Gunnar Thoroddsen's Cabinet invited the Althing (parliament) to ratify a program of economic measures to cure inflation. In particular, as well as devaluing the Krona, it envisaged putting up the bank rate. At the same time it proposed freezing the payment of wage increases. The trade unions and most parliamentary factions were against the new plan. The newspapers wrote that the measures proposed by the Cabinet simply encouraged inflation and increased prices. The People's Alliance Party advocated the dissolution of the Althing and the holding of early elections.

Of course, it would be incorrect to reduce everything to economic problems. Several other factors influence the alignment of political forces in Iceland. One of them is the U.S. base at Keflavik. Some 30 years ago the Icelanders were drawn into NATO. The so-called 'defense agreement' signed at that time opened up access to Kaflavik for the Americans. Now, specialists estimate, it is the largest U.S. military base in Western Europe.

Gunnar Gunnarson, secretary of the government committee on security, writes in his book entitled "Gates of (Gium)" [expansion unknown] that almost 3,000 U.S. servicemen and squadrons of Phantoms are based near Reykjavik. Some 4 years ago aircraft equipped with the AWACS system landed here. Since then the spy planes are permanently in the air.

The Icelanders have tried to evict the "guests" on more than one occasion. In 1956 the Althing adopted a resolution to revise the agreement. Resorting to all means of political pressure, the Americans still retained their hold on Keflavik. But they did not manage to deflect the wave of anti-NATO sentiments. An organization of opponents of the bases is active in the country, its supporters hold annual marches on the American base. This summer the Keflavik march was held under the slogans of liquidation of the U.S. base and Iceland's withdrawal from NATO. The idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe has received great support in the country. The present foreign minister, Johannesson, confirmed that Iceland is interested in realizing this idea.

While I was in Reykjavik, the local press was commenting widely on a report in the American newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST. It dealt with a new Pentagon plan which envisages building up Keflavik's combat might. People here had earlier found out about another secret plan. Its authors were employees of the "U.S. Information Center" in Reykjavik. The aim of the propaganda offensive was defined thus: "to make Icelanders firmly believe that they need an American presence on the island." Clearly, it is a question of propaganda to back up the schemes which are being hatched in the Pentagon. And the Washington strategists' plans are on a large scale. To judge by the press reports, it is a matter of building a new airfield and hangars for warplanes, petroleum storage facilities, a military port, and building a radar tracking station.

The schemes of the transatlantic military are coming up against growing opposition from the Icelanders. The prospect of becoming passengers, against their will, on the "U.S. aircraft carrier in the north Atlantic" does not suit the island's inhabitants. The Icelanders oppose their country being turned into a strategic point in Washington's global policy.

U.S. 'PLANS' FOR MILITARY BASES IN TURKEY

LD201748 Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1400 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary: "The Plans of U.S. Imperialist Circles -- and Turkey"]

[Text] The U.S. and Turkish press have of late been pointing out the noticable activation of military relations between the United States and Turkey. THE WALL STREET JOURNAL notes that a U.S.-Turkish security memorandum was signed in Brussels toward the end of November last year. This memorandum enables the United States to modernize existing airbases and to establish new ones.

The modernisation of existing airbases and the construction of new ones involves two issues. First, the creation of airfields to act as bases for aircraft equipped with AWACS. Second, the use of these airfields and bases as support points for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces. Both Turkish and American papers confirm this. According to CUMHURIYET, the preparation of airfields to function as a base for four American aircraft equipped with AWACS continues at speed in Turkey. In the words of Turkish Defense Minister Haluk Bayulken, these aircraft will be used to patrol the Black Sea, the Mediterranean, the Aegean and adjacent regions. The U.S. press comments on this issue more openly, overtly stating that a continuous patrol will be maintained along the borders of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Treaty countries with the aid of the AWACS, and that furthermore, it will be the network of airfields in Turkey which will make the maintenance of such patrols possible.

As for the transformation of these airfields into support points for the notorious Rapid Deployment Force, this, in the final analysis, is being done, both within the NATO framework and for U.S. hegemonist goals. Nor is this a fact that could possible be unknown in Turkey. To cite another WALL STREET JOURNAL claim, there is no lack of guesses in Turkey that the bases in question will sooner or later become bridgeheads for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. This is borne out by Turkish papers. Thus, MILLIYET writes: We all know that the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force will come here sooner or later, irrespective of whether Turkey agrees or not.

A question arises: Why is America so insistent on having support points created in Turkey? As is known, the Pentagon attaches special importance to the Middle East. The U.S. view is that it should be ready to send its Armed Forces to the Gulf if any danger to the security of oil installations in the area becomes apparent.

These, dear listeners, are the facts. And they show clearly that the United States relies on Turkey and is arranging its plans concerning America's overlordship in the Middle East and the Mediterranean areas accordingly. It is regrettable that the process of the transformation of Turkey into a U.S. outpost is being speeded up in various forms. The number of people who rule out the possibility of an active role for Turkey in future operations of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force is steadily declining. As CUMHURIYET points out, any form of participation by Turkey in American plans can harm Turkey's relations with the Soviet Union and other neighboring countries, and is dangerous for Turkey itself. What MILLI GAZETE writes is therefore noteworthy. According to this paper, Turkey's paramount national duty is to rule out being involved in U.S. adventurist plans, which threaten Turkey's security and harm the country's relations with its neighbors. It is more than ever necessry now to be vigilant in the face of the actions of America -- which is striving to present itself as a friend. Such actions can bring new and multiple problems and disasters upon the head of the Turkish nation.

What can one add to such wise counsel?

U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN ITALIAN TERRORISM SEEN

PM141524 [Editorial Report] Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian on 25 December publishes on page 3 a 900-word TASS-attributed article by V. Malyshev dated 24 December under the headline "The Trial Leads to Washington."

Noting that from 1969 through 1980 there have been over 12,000 acts of terrorism in Italy, Malyshev focuses on the recent scandal of the P-2 Masonic Lodge which planned a rightwing coup. "Scarcely had they begun to unravel the knot of the scandal in Italy," he says, "before it became clear that the thread led across the ocean, where Masonic organizations enjoy enormous influence and power. It emerged that P-2 had been created with the active assistance of the U.S. special services."

"The Masons on the Apennines were activated at the moment when the influence of the leftwing parties was intensifying in Italy," Malyshev goes on, claiming that Washington chose 'P-2' to perform the task of ensuring that a government "obedient to the White House" was installed in Italy. Moreover, he says, the CIA is prepared to use any means to ensure U.S. strategic interests, which is why "the Masons from 'P-2' (and therefore their transatlantic patrons) have been involved in virtually all the notorious acts of terrorism committed on the Apennines in recent years." The aim, Malyshev alleges, is "by creating an atmosphere of chaos and violence in Italy to deal a blow to the leftwing forces and prepare the ground for the accession to power of a 'strong' cabinet." Despite the United States' refusal to extradite a P-2 member who admitted his ties with the CIA, and despite the murder of Mino Pecorelli, a journalist who attempted to "expose the links between the CIA, the 'P-2' Lodge and the terrorists" in 1979, "the peoples of the world can see clearly that the terrorists' bloody trail leads to Washington," Malyshev concludes.

USSR, GREECE SIGN TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION PROTOCOL

LD151004 Moscow TASS in English 0702 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- The cooperation between Greece and the USSR points to the growing friendship between our two countries, a MOSCOW NEWS correspondent was told by Yeorgios Lianis, the Greek minister of research and technology, during the signing of a protocol for scientific and technological cooperation between Greece and the USSR for 1983-84.

Spheres of cooperation have been earmarked including a number of new ones, such as energy, agriculture, construction and public health. Joint work will be undertaken on the drawing up of projects for high-capacity power stations solar energy. [sentence as received]

In seismology, Soviet and Greek organizations will undertake a joint study of Greek territory for seismic effects, and work on the improvement of forecasting methods.

The USSR and Greece have also agreed on the establishment of business contacts and on the exchange of scientific and technological information in geology, and forestry. Work has already begun on bilateral research and designing.

NEW PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT PLANNED UNDER CRESPO

LD142210 Moscow TASS in English 2051 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Lisbon January 14 TASS -- After strenuous and prolonged negotiations, the leaders of the rightwing parties composing the ruling "Democratic Alliance," coalition agreed today to form a new government. Approved as candidate for the post of head of the cabinet is Social Democrat Vitor Pereira Crespo, while Luis Barboza, representing the Socio-Democratic Centre, is to become deputy prime minister and minister of defence.

Francisco Pinto Balsemao, former prime minister and leader of the Social Democrats, told newsmen of his intention to inform today the republic's President General Antonio Ramalho Eanes about completion of the preparatory stage in the forming of the new government.

Under the Constitution, the head of state can officially appoint Vitor Pereira Crespo as prime minister and entrust him with forming a cabinet, or he can disband the repubic's assembly and hold early parliamentary elections.

POSSIBILITY OF NUCLEAR ARMS ON BRITISH SHIP VIEWED

LD150933 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1245 GMT 15 Jan 83

[From the "International Review" presented by Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] The whole unattractive story of the Thatcher pilgrimage to the Falklands has not only reawakened the passions that raged in Latin America during the war and awakened anti-British and anti-American feelings: It has again brought to life a very important question that arose on that June day when missiles fired by an Argentine pilot sank the British cruiser [as heard] Sheffield. All the world's press at that time showed the photographs you now see. In this case, you see them in the Argentine magazine DIAS. [magazine photos of casualties being led or carried from HMS Sheffield are shown]. Pay attention to this: This is the rescue operation; it shows the sailors from the Sheffield being conveyed by their rescuers to other shops. Pay particular attention to this: All the rescuers are wearing radiation-protection suits. Those helmets and masks are antiradiation protection.

Does this not mean, as the world press is now asking, that there were nuclear weapons on board the Sheffield, and that these are resting with the remains of the Sheffield approximately 2,000 meters below in the ocean off the coast of South America? London has still given no convincing answer to these questions. The questions are multiplying and to those who are interested, I would like to recommend the latest issue of ZA RUBEZHOM, in which a large selection of material on this subject is published -- a very interesting collection.

TRUD CORRESPONDENTS ON DUTCH ANTIMISSILE MOVEMENT

PM171551 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian 7 January 1983 publishes on page 3 under the rubric "From a Journalist's Notebook" a 2,000-word dispatch from Amsterdam, The Hague and Utrecht by special correspondents A. Antsiferov and V. Sisnev entitled "Windmills and Cruise Missiles." The first half of the dispatch constitutes a Dutch travelogue and an account of some internal social and political problems in the Netherlands. It then proceeds to describe a meeting with some members of the Dutch women's antiwar movement, noting the broad popular opposition to the plans to deploy cruise and Pershing missiles in the Netherlands and the authorities' efforts to discredit that opposition. Without predicting the outcome of the future parliamentary vote on the missile deployment decision, the writers maintain that the possibility exists that the Dutch people will prevent the introduction of "such alien details as American missiles" onto the Dutch landscape.

MOSCOW EXAMINES U.S. PROPOSAL ON SOUTHERN LEBANON

LD210430 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The Israeli paper HA'ARETZ has said that the United States has proposed to deploy its military personnel at the early warning stations which Israel is demanding to be sited in southern Lebanon. The special envoy of the American President, Philip Habib, made this proposal during his visit to Jerusalem. Habib's proposal is similar to one of the clauses of the separate Egyptian-Israeli agreement on the Sinai concluded in September 1975 with the active participation of the United States and in implementation of which American forces are stationed at the early warning stations in Sinai. This was considered by Arab nationalist circles as a threat to the Arabs, and they were right. The early warning stations were not set up just at the request and in the interest of Israel alone: The deployment of American military experts in these stations was the first step toward U.S. neocolonialist military infiltration into Egypt. Shortly afterward Washington secured military facilities on Egyptian territory from Cairo. A year ago the so-called Multinational Forces, the backbone of which is the American RDF, spread out in Sinai for an indefinite period of time. The result of this was that Egypt's soveriegnty over Sinai became severely limited and Egypt itself became tied to U.S. policy.

Now Washington is not hiding the fact that it very much desires Lebanon to take the same steps as those of As-Sadat's Egypt. The stationing of American military personnel in southern Lebanon could be the first step on the road of turning this Arab country into a bridgehead for the American gendarme, the RDF.

U.S. FORCES IN PERSIAN GULF CRITICIZED

NC210924 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The Central Command of the so-called Rapid Deployment Force began operating in the United States on 1 January with the objective of defending U.S. interests in the Near East, Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean. This command is one of the links in the chain which will set into action the Reagan administration's world-embracing strategy. Presently, about 300,000 military personnel of the U.S. ground, air and naval forces are at the disposal of this command which forms the nucleus of the Rapid Deployment Force.

The fact that the sphere of operation of this Central Command includes the territories of 19 countries automatically proves that the present U.S. Administration's claims for world supremacy have gone further than (?the confinement of four walls) and are becoming a very dangerous reality.

I wish to recall that the formation of the Rapid Deployment Force is connected with the Persian Gulf region which the U.S. Administration has imprudently declared an area of its vital interests, as if it were speaking of the U.S. States of Texas and California. The first operational grouping of these forces took place in 1980, after the downfall of the shah's regime in Iran and at a time when the undeclared war against Afghanistan was escalating. Washington's leaders hoped to use this strike force to put the incidents in the Near East and Persian Gulf on the course which they wanted. Therefore, they set up the Ra's Banas naval base for stationing the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. The United States gained military bases in Somalia, Sudan and Oman. Early last year when the Israeli forces withdrew from Sinai, units of the U.S. forces in the form of the so-called Multinational Forces replaced the Israeli army on Egyptian territory. This apparently conciliatory act by the United States was actually the first step toward its direct military penetration in the Near East.

For several years now military maneuvers with the participation of strike units of the U.S. Armed Forces have been taking place in this region. Very recently -- a month ago -- ground, air and naval maneuvers took place on Omani territory and near the coasts of Oman with the participation of 2,500 men of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. According to AP these maneuvers were carried out behind a veil of secrecy because -- again according to the news agency -- the Americans and especially the U.S. Armed Forces are not trusted in most parts of the Persian Gulf. This is the actual case and the reason is that this region's nations consider the U.S. maneuvers to be tantamount to direct intervention in the domestic affairs of Near East countries on the pretext defending oil resources.

In other words, the Rapid Deployment Force is nothing but a gendarme corps with obvious (?political duties). It should save reactionary leaders, crush revolutionary forces, stifle progressive regimes and prevent developing countries from freely exploiting their natural resources. In short, it should establish a situation which Washington wants -- and the use of any means to reach this end is advisable even if this means the use of tactical nuclear and neutron arms.

This is the actual mission of the Rapid Deployment Force and the formation of (?this force) was solely aimed at reviving [word indistinct] colonialist diplomacy (?in the 20th century).

UN ENVOY REPORTEDLY TO MEET WITH IRANIAN LEADERS

LD211136 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2330 GMT 20 Jan 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Viktor Anikin]

[Text] Diego Cordovez, special representative of the UN secretary general, arrives in Tehran today for talks with Iranian leaders. As we have reported, the aim of Cordovez' mission is to promote settlement of the crisis around Afghanistan.

It is known that under cover of the problem of the so-called Afghan refugees, Pakistan and Iran in fact encourage counterrevolutionary bands operating against Democratic Afghanistan. As yet no commentaries have appeared in the Iranian press about the visit of the representative of the UN secretary general. AFP expresses the opinion that it seems the Iranian authorities do not intend to give up their former unconstructive position on the Afghan question.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA INTERVIEWS YASIR 'ARAFAT

PM201057 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 12 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Interview with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, by an unnamed APN correspondent for SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA under the "Topical Interview" rubric: "We Thank the Soviet People" -- date, place not give]

[Text] "The Palestinian people rate highly and welcome the Soviet stance and thank the Soviet people for their resolute and unfailing support for the Palestinian cause," Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, stated in an interview which he gave to an APN correspondent for SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA.

On the development of events in the region Y. 'Arafat said: "At the Fes conference the Arabs formulated a plan for peaceful and just Near East settlement. A 'committee of seven' was formed to send a delegation to visit a number of states to discuss the plan for establishing peace with them and to hear their opinion.

"The delegation visited the United States. However, the U.S. Administration refused to receive the delegation's Palestinian representative. During the Washington talks the United States held to its old position, which ignores the main point -- that is, the Palestinian problem, including the return of the Arab lands and the Palestinian Arab people's rights to self-determination and the creation of an independent state.

"The delegation subsequently visited Moscow, where it held successful talks with Soviet leaders who stressed that the USSR's stance on the issue of a peaceful settlement is essentially identical to the plan formulated by the Arabs at the Fes conference. The Soviet side confirmed that the Soviet Union's stance is firm and unchanging and is aimed at supporting the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, including the return of the captured lands, self-determination and the creation of an independent Palestinian. state."

"It should be noted," Yasir 'Arafat went on, "that the United States is continuing to ignore the Palestinian people's rights, whose validity has been recognized by the United Nations. The U.S. Administration is giving unlimited support to Israeli aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. The bloody events in Lebanon were committed with U.S. blessing and assistance. It is known that the plan for that aggression was formulated by former U.S. Secretary of State A. Haig. Thus the carnage in Lebanon was planned in America and carried out with its approval."

In view of that, Yasir 'Arafat said, I do not believe that the prospects for a rapid solution of the problem are good. The main reason is the criminal and aggressive policy pursued by Israel's militarist clique headed by Begin and Sharon, which is committing inhuman crimes against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. During the war in Lebanon there were over 72,00 Lebanese and Palestinian victims in addition to the 5,000 victims of the slaughter at Sabra and Shatila barbarously murdered in the space of a few hours.

Thus I believe that a solution of the Near East problem can be served by a firm and resolute stance from the world community in opposition to Israel's aggressive plans which are supported and encouraged by the United States.

On the development of Palestinian-Soviet relations, Yasir 'Arafat stated: "The Palestinian and Soviet peoples are linked by bonds of old, deep and firm friendship. The USSR has resolutely defended and continues to defend the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. That support was graphically shown in the international arena in the form of certain Soviet initiatives. During the Israeli aggression the USSR unfailingly assisted the Palestinian people. I personally maintained constant contact with the Soviet leadership. Our people will never forget that stand, which is rated highly by the entire Arab nation."

PALESTINIAN LEADER CITED ON REAGAN MIDEAST 'PLAN'

LD181946 Moscow TASS in English 1828 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Damascus January 18 TASS -- The "Reagan plan" for a settlement of the Middle East crisis is a new dangerous conspiracy which poses the main threat to Arab peoples at the present stage, Nayif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), has stated in an interview with the weekly AL-HADAF.

President Reagan, the DFLP general secretary pointed out, put forward his plan on the eve of the Arab countries' summit conference in Fes in the belief that the Arabs, after the Washington-organized Israeli intervention against Lebanon, would accept it. However, the inalienable aspirations of Arab peoples, first of all those of Palestinian people, were reaffirmed at the conference in Fes.

Nevertheless, Washington, Nayif Hawatimah pointed out, continues to put every kind of pressure on Arab countries in an attempt to impose the capitulatory plan on them, the plan which rejects the self-determination of the Arab people of Palestiine, deprives them of a right to return to the native land and which demands that they abandon support for their sole and legitimate representative -- the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Having pointed out a direct connection between the Camp David conspiracy and the "Reagan plan", the DFLP general secretary urged all patriotic forces of the Arab world to unite to counteract the dangerous designs of the imperialist and reactionary forces of the region. Alliance with socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union is the major factor determining the success of the struggle of the Arab national-liberation movement, he emphasized.

PRAVDA: EGYPT RETURNS TO CENTRALIZED PLANNING

PM201503 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Peresada report: "Returning to Planning"]

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jan -- The People's Assembly has approved a 5-year plan for Egypt's development for 1982-87. Its distinctive feature is the emphasis on the state sector, into which 75 percent of all capital investment is channeled. In the course of the 5-year period it is planned to create 2 million new jobs. The return to centralized planning is an important step, undertaken by the present Egyptian leadership with a view to improving the economy.

U.S.-ISRAELI 'CONSPIRACY' IN LATIN AMERICA VIEWED

LD182106 Moscow TASS in English 1921 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 18 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir writes:

A spokesman for the U.S. Department of State has admitted at a recent press conference that U.S. interests coincide with those of Israel in certain areas of policy in Latin America. That is why, naturally, he stressed, the U.S. will support Israel's actions in these areas.

What these "areas" are has long been an open secret. In fact, Washington and Tel Aviv are cooperating most closely in pursuing in Latin America a course of intervention aimed at destabilizing and overthrowing governments which displease the U.S. ruling circles and at fostering and supporting in every way military dictatorial regimes on the continent. Israel is a "strategic ally" of U.S. imperialism not only in pursuing hegemonistic and expansionist schemes in the Middle East. The Washington administration is also using that ally in every way to carry out its plans of aggression in other parts of the world, primarily in the Western Hemisphere itself, where the militarist course of the United States is coming against an ever-stronger rebuff.

It should also be borne in mind that U.S. armed intervention in Central America and Washington's military support for the most reactionary dictatorships are provoking active opposition in the United States itself, both on the part of the broad circles of the public and in Congress. In these conditions the Reagan government uses its Israeli partner as a supplier of weaponry and war technology for Washington's puppets. The Spanish news agency EFE has noted that Israel can do in Latin America what Washington can no longer do in some cases.

There are numerous facts, including fairly recent ones, which testify convincingly to an American-Israeli conspiracy against the freedom and independence of the Latin American peoples. It is quite symptomatic, for instance, that just two days after President Reagan's recent visit to Honduras, turned by the United States into a beachhead of aggression against Nicaragua, the Israeli Defence Minister Sharon arrived there.

The secret military agreement he concluded with the Honduran leaders, according to the CHICAGO TRIBUNE, provides for the supplies of different types of weaponry and war technology to that country, including jet fighters and radars. Israel will also send to Honduras its military "experts" and "advisers" and provide assistance in modernizing the Honduran Air Force.

The Israeli "death merchants" are active in other countries, ruled by pro-American puppet regimes, which are pursuing with Washington's blessing a policy of genocide against their own people. It was Israel that supplied the bulk of weaponry to the Salvadoran junta, whose terror has already claimed more than 40,000 human lives. The mechanics of cooperation between Washington and Tel Aviv in this field were exposed by the French LE MONDE, which quoted official Israeli sources to point out that the Israeli Government had given El Salvador 21 million dollars out of the aid it had itself received from the United States. This was done, according to the newspaper, at the request of the Reagan administration.

Israel's Latin American clients include the dictatorships in Guatemala, Haiti, Paraguay and Chile. Tel Aviv supplies the Pinochet fascist regime not only with diverse war technology but also with special equipment for police and other repressive forces. Israeli "specialists" are giving the regime practical assistance in fighting Chilean patriots.

Israel has long been Washington's "trusted lieutenant" in those cases when Washington itself cannot operate openly.

During the last years of the rule of the blood-stained Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua it received 98 percent of its weapons from Israel.

This criminal U.S.-Israeli alliance is strongly denounced by the world public, numerous international organizations and the governments of different countries. The participants in the extraordinary meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the non-aligned countries in Managua strongly protested against American-Israeli intervention in Latin America and stressed that this course was fraught with a grave threat to peace and security.

DEMIRCHYAN RECEIVES DOMINICAN PARTY LEADER

GF191620 Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 5 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] On 4 January, K. Demirchyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, met with Narciso Isa Conde, secretary general of the Dominican Communist Party.

The two had a friendly talk during which K. Demirchyan briefed the guest on the successes achieved by Armenian workers during the years of Soviet rule and within the fraternal family of the USSR peoples.

Comrade Narciso Isa Conde related the struggle of the Dominican Communists for the strengthening of national independence in their country and the social liberation of the Dominican people. He pointed out the important meaning of the resolved national issue in USSR for the peoples who struggle for freedom and against imperialist and capitalist domination.

L. Manaseryan, chief of the Armenian SSR Information and Foreign Relations Department, and other officials were present at the meeting.

BOOK REVIEWS SOVIET-CUBAN MILITARY TIES

PM210953 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Dec 82 Second Edition p 3

[Colonel General D. Krutskikh book review: "Bonds of Friendship and Fraternity"]

[Text] A series of works on combat cooperation among peoples and armies of the socialist countries published by the Military Literature Publishing House has been supplemented with an interesting book entitled "Courage and Fraternity," [footnote: Muzhestvo i Bratstvo. (several authors). Military Literature Publishing House, 1982, 240 pages, R1.20] The work is the result of scientific cooperation between a collective of authors of the USSR Defense Ministry Institute of Military History, the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Latin America and the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces Center for Military History. It is devoted to the origin and main stages of development of Soviet-Cuban military-political cooperation and the brotherhood in arms between servicemen of the Soviet Armed Forces and the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces.

The book is prefaced by a message from Army General Raul Castro Ruz, Cuban minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, to Soviet and Cuban readers. His warm and benevolent words introduce us to the atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding in which the events described in the work unfolded.

The victory of the people's revolution in Cuba and the restructuring of society on socialist principles opened up every opportunity for the all-around development of Soviet-Cuban relations on the principles of socialist internationalism.

The book stresses that at this stage an exceptionally important role was played by the military-political ties between our countries, aimed at ensuring Cuba's security and strengthening its defense capability.

It is precisely this which American reaction sees as the chief obstacle to the implementation of its reckless plans aimed at overthrowing the revolutionary government and bringing Cuba back into the sphere of capitalism. U.S. imperialism is doing everything to try and curtail Soviet-Cuban military-political cooperation. "They call our ties military," Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the republic's Councils of State and Ministers, noted, "but our ties are political. Political ties include military ties. We are profoundly satisfied with our relations.

"These political ties, which they call 'military,' will never be severed. We will never agree to break them off! Primarily for reasons of principle, but also from a sense of gratitude, a sense of honor and dignity."

The book shows how, as from the second half of 1960, the Soviet Union began to supply Cuba gratis with everything it needed to strengthen its defense might and dispatched military specialists. Cuban servicemen began to study military matters in Soviet military training establishments.

The Soviet Union sees it as its international duty to render political and military assistance to socialist Cuba in strengthening its defense capability.

The book's analysis of the special features of military building in Cuba merits approval. In particular, it shows convincingly the law-governed nature of the transition from a militia system and the principle of building up forces on a voluntary basis to the creation of a regular cadre army.

A description of the most important forms and methods of strengthening brotherhood in arms between the servicemen of the Cuban Army and the armies of the other socialist countries occupies a fitting place in the book. It is stressed that the central element in patriotic and international education is work to strengthen friendship with the peoples of the Soviet Union and its Leninist party and Armed Forces.

In one of the chapters the authors describe the events of fall 1962, when mankind was faced with the direct threat of world nuclear missile war. U.S. ruling circles were preparing an armed invasion of Cuba in an attempt to stifle the stronghold of socialism on the American Continent. Thanks to the heroism of Cuba's Army and people and the firm but flexible political and military line of the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact countries, the aggression against the Cuban people was averted. The authors note that the lessons of those 20-year old events have not lost their significance today, when American imperialism has once again embarked on a path of direct confrontation with socialism.

Cuba is called the advance post of socialism in the Western Hemisphere, 90 miles from the citadel of imperialism, which is striving to tear it away from the socialist community. This is why Cuban working people are fully determined to strengthen the Revolutionary Armed Forces, the territorial militia forces and civil defense forces in every possible way and to develop relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation with the USSR and the other socialist countries. They see this as the guarantee of their security.

POLITBURO DISCUSSES FOREIGN, DOMESTIC ISSUES

LD201622 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 20 Jan 83

["In the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee has discussed at its meeting a number of foreign policy issues.

It discussed the results of a conversation with a delegation from the Palestine Liberation Organisation led by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The importance of this conversation for further coordination of actions of the Soviet Union and the PLO in connection with the situation in the Middle East and the Palestinian problem was stressed.

The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee heard information on the situation at the Madrid meeting of the participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in connection with its resumption.

The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee heard a report by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Defence Minister of the USSR Dmitriy Ustinov, on the regular meeting of the Warsaw Treaty Defence Ministers' Committee in Prague.

It examined the results of the UN Law of the Sea conference and measures stemming from the adoption at it of a new convention regulating basic issues of the use of the world ocean and its riches.

The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee examined proposals by the USSR Council of Ministers on additional measures for preparing and conducting spring field-work in 1983. Instructions were issued to take all necessary measures which would ensure that the field-work is carried out in time and be of a high quality.

The meeting considered some other issues of the national economy.

MAKEYEV RELEASED FROM DEPUTY PREMIERSHIP

LD201434 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Jan 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Comrade Valentin Nikolayevich Makeyev from his duties as deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, in connection with his transfer to other work.

RECENT LEADER ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS REPORTED

Rashidov, Uzbek Environmentalists

GF201712 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1300 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Summary] A meeting of the Uzbek society for preserving the environment and utilizing natural resources was held in Tashkent on 20 January. The meeting discussed the 26th CPSU Congress and the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee resolutions related to obligations for preserving the environment. Narmakhonmadi Khudayberdyyev, chairman of the Uzbek Council of Ministers, presided over the meeting.

Sharaf Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the meeting which was also attended by Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev, the chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Leonid Grekov, the second secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee.

Demichev, Zimyanin at Artists Congress

LD210344 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Text] The USSR artists congress entered its final day in Moscow today. Comrades Demichev and Zimyanin were present at the session. The congress has called on all Soviet artists to be worthy of their lofty destiny and to give their creative efforts and talent to the cause of serving the great people, the cause of the Communist Party and struggle for peace, for the happy future of mankind and for communism.

A greetings letter to the CPSU Central Committee was adopted with enthusiasm. The congress delegates unanimously adopted an appeal calling on artists of the world to join efforts in the struggle against the nuclear threat and for the victory of reason and humanism.

Kuznetsov Presents Awards

LD182140 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Comrade Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented orders and medals of the USSR in the Kremlin today to a group of comrades.

The Order of Lenin and a second hammer sickle gold medal of Hero of Socialist Labor was given to Academician (Basov). Orders of Lenin and golden hammer and sickle medals were received by Academician (Vladimirov) and Krotov, minister of USSR power machine-building, who was also awarded the title Hero of Socialist Labor.

Alekseyev, chief editor of IZVESTIYA; academician (Nikolayev), rector of the Baumann Moscow higher technical school and Academician (Sagdeyev) were awarded the Order of Lenin.

Orders of the October Revolution were presented to (Bronnikov), corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and Kravtsov, RSFSR Procurator.

Army General Shabanov was awarded the Order of the Red Banner.

Orders of the Red Labor Red Banner, of Friendship of Peoples, and for Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces, second class, badges of honor and medals for labor valour were also presented. (Alov) and (Naumov), film directors, were presented diplomas on the awarding them the honorable title of USSR People's Artists.

Diplomats on the award of service rank and marshal's stars were presented to Army General Maksimov and Air Marshal Kirsanov.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government, Comrade Kuznetsov cordially congratulated the award winners and wished them new successes.

PRAVDA CRITICIZES CONSUMER GOODS REPAIR SYSTEM

PM211133 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 18 January in its Second Edition publishes on page 3 a 1,800-word B. Mironov article under the heading "Not on Equal Terms" following up a 1981 PRAVDA article on the procedure for exchanging defective consumer goods still under guarantee.

Mironov describes the experiences of consumers who have had difficulty in obtaining replacements or having goods repaired, and criticizes the USSR Ministry of Trade for failing to adopt a procedure "in accordance with the law" on goods under guarantee. He quotes statistics on the number of cases of faulty consumer durables and also criticizes the USSR Prosecutor's Office for failing to respond to the earlier PRAVDA article. Mironov concludes that under the present system "it is the consumer who is without rights."

PRAVDA REPORTS CONTENTS OF KOMMUNIST NO 1

PM201507 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jan 83 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Journal's Latest Issue"]

[Text] The first 1983 issue of the CPSU Central Committee's theoretical and political journal KOMMUNIST has been published.

It publishes: Yu.V. Andropov's report "60 Years of the USSR"; the appeal "To Parliaments, Governments, Political Parties and Peoples of the World"; Yu.V. Andropov's answers to questions by American observer J. Kingsbury-Smith, and to RUDE PRAVO questions; and the document "In the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers."

A selection of articles devoted to the USSR's 60th anniversary is published under the rubric "We Are Proud of Our Fatherland."

The section "Under the Banner of Internationalism" publishes the following articles: "A New Chapter in Mankind's History" by G. Lazar, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers; "Why I Am a Communist, Why I Am a Friend of the Soviet Union" by M. Theodorakis; "Soviet Experience and Canadian Reality" by W. Kashtan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Canada; "Festival of Friendship and Peace" by G. Pasolini, deputy secretary general of the San Marino Communist Party; and "The Curtain Rises Again for Latin America" by M (Cepeda), member of the Colombian Communist Party Central Committee Executive Committee.

The rubric "For Our Soviet Motherland" has the articles "Victory on the Volga" by Army General D. Lelyushenko and "Features of the Immortal Feat" by I. Paderin.

The issue prints the following articles: "To Know and Understand Each Other Better" by Z. Kruglova, chairman of the presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; and "The French Communist Party [PCF]: Challenging the Capitalist Crisis" by G. Marchais, secretary general of the PCF; and also critical and bibliographical materials.

NEW UZBEK MINISTER OF RURAL CONSTRUCTION

WA211415 [Editorial Report] Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian on 9 December carries page 1 a 100-word item concerning the action of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium relieving S.D. Khitrov from his duties as minister of rural construction in connection with his retirement. The Presidium announced the appointment of Viktor Dmitrivich Danilenko as the new minister of rural construction.

UKRAINIAN SUPREME SOVIET ENERGY COMMISSION FORMED

WA211430 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 1 Dec 82 p 2

[Text] Resolution of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR on the Formation of a Commission of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR on Energy.

The Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic resolves: to create a commission of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR on energy.

Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR A. Vatchenko, Secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR N. Khomenko Kiev, 30 November 1982.

COMPARISON OF KISELEV DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 13 January in its Second Edition publishes on page 2 an obituary of T.Ya. Kiselev. The PRAVDA version has been compared to the Moscow Domestic Service Russian report published in the 12 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages R 1 and R 2, and the following variations have been noted:

Page R 1, paragraph 2, PRAVDA omits the first two lines and begins the article: On 11 January 1983, after a serious...

Same paragraph, last line, PRAVDA reads: ... Socialist Labor, died. An eminent figure of the Communist Party and Soviet state whose life was unreservedly devoted to the great cause of building communism has departed from among us. (adding sentence)

Page R 2, after paragraph 1, PRAVDA adds the following signatories to the obituary: Yu.V. Andropov, G.A. Aliyev, M.S. Gorbachev, V.V. Grishin, A.A. Gromyko, D.A. Kunayev, A.Ya. Pelshe, G.V. Romanov, N.A. Tikhonov, D.F. Ustinov, K.U. Chernenko, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, P.N. Demichev, V.I. Dolgikh, V.V. Kuznetsov, B.N. Ponomarev, Sh.R. Rashidov, M.S. Solomentsev, E.A. Shevardnadze, M.V. Zimyanin, I.V. Kapitonov, K.V. Rusakov, N.I. Ryzhkov, T.N. Menteshashvili, A.N. Aksenov, V.G. Baluyev, V.I. Broviko, N.I. Dementey, Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, Yu.B. Kolokolov, A.T. Kuzmin, M.I. Lagir, V.A. Mikulich, V.F. Mitskevich, N.N. Polozov, I.Ye. Polyakov, L.S. Firisanov, Yu.M. Khusaynov, I.F. Yakushev, V.Ye. Labanok, N.L. Snezhkova, V.P. Shaplyko, L.G. Kletskov, A.A. Malofeyev, V.V. Prishchepchik, Ye.Ye. Sokolov, S.M. Shabashov, G.G. Bartoshevich, N.A. Borisevich, L.D. Bryzga, Ye.I. Klimchenko, V.L. Bedulya, Ye.I. Shurko (Maksim Tank).

STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE DATA ON INCOME GROWTH

LD142247 Moscow TASS in English 1808 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- TASS commentator Aleksandr Kozlov writes:

Soviet people's incomes continue to grow at a stable rate. According to preliminary data by the USSR State Planning Committee, the average monthly pay of factory and office workers increased by 2.6 per cent, and that of peasants by 4 per cent last year over the previous year.

Under a programme to improve people's standards of living, wages were increased in the past year for over a million miners in the Donetsk, Kuznetsk, Karaganda and Pechora coal basins. The wage rise was 9.9 per cent. The workers of all the other mines will get pay increases later this year.

It is noteworthy that the wages and salaries are the main but not sole source of Soviet people's incomes. They account only for three-fourths of family budgets, the [word indistinct] accounted for by various forms of payment from the public welfare funds.

These funds are used to finance free medical aid and education, pensions, children's maintenance in nursery schools and kindergartens and workers' recreation.

Last year payments from these funds to the people increased by almost [word indistinct] per cent to 128 billion roubles.

Talking about the improvement of Soviet people's well-being, one should bear in mind that wages grow in the USSR amid stable [words indistinct] basic foodstuffs and consumer goods, low rent and fares for communal services and city transport. The rent has not changed for over half a century now and, coupled with communal services, does not take more than an average of 3 to 5 per cent of people's family budgets.

On the whole, the Soviet state is planning to increase the real per capita income by 16.5 per cent over the Eleventh Five-Year Plan period (1981-1985).

COMPONENTS FOR GAS PIPELINE PRODUCED EARLY

PM171535 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jan 83 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Party Task Fulfilled"]

[Text] By fulfilling the historic 26th CPSU Congress decisions, the collectives of the Kuybyshev science and production association and the Mazan engine building production association have warmly endorsed the resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers, which approved the patriotic initiative launched by leading collectives in the country in response to the intrigues of the U.S. Administration, which banned the supply of equipment for the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline, and, by extending socialist competition, they have fulfilled ahead of schedule the government target and their socialist pledges with regard to the assimilation in production and manufacture of high-power gas turbine drives for main gas pipeline pumping stations.

Instead of the 7 envisaged in the original plan, 18 heavy-duty gas turbine drives, each with a capacity of 16,000 kilowatts, were made and supplied in 1982.

Inspired by the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum decisions and the propositions and conclusions arising from the reports delivered at this plenum and at the ceremony marking the 60th anniversary of the USSR'S formation by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee the employees of the Kuybyshev science and production association and the Kazan engine building production association have pledged to quadruple output of high-power drives for gas pumping stations in 1983, while at the same time increasing their reliability and service life, by further improving organization and labor discipline, streamlining production and extending socialist competition.

BELORUSSIA, LITHUANIA OVERFULFILL 1982 PLANS

LD200022 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] The results of the 1982 socialist competition between the working people of Belorussia and Lithuania have been summed up. The republics' Central Statistical Administration have reported that planned tasks have been overfulfilled: in Lithuania about 90 percent of the production increase was achieved through increased labor productivity. Both republics have overfulfilled their plans for housing construction, and consumer services have grown significantly.

BRIEFS

AZERBAIJAN POWER GENERATION -- The directorate of power in Azerbaijan has informed a Baku radio correspondent that the second turbine of the (Shampoz) hydroelectric powerplant in the republic will be put into operation in 1983 together with the Azerbaijan (Nahiye) powerplant's third power unit. As a result of this, the general capacity of the powerplants in Azerbaijan will increase by about 500,000 kilowatts. Let us also recall that the power output in Azerbaijan is channelled to the (?integrated) electricity network in the country. The annual power output in Azerbaijan today is 85 times more than the power generated 60 years ago. The annual power output in Azerbaijan totals to about 15 billion kilowatt hours [Text] [Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 20 Jan 83 GF]

OFFSHORE GAS -- Moscow January 13 TASS -- The Soviet Union is increasing the output of gas at its continental shelf. The volume of gas extraction at its offshore deposits in 1982 amounted to 14.8 billion cubic metres. The Caspian and Azov Seas are the main areas of gas extraction on the continental shelf in the USSR, a TASS correspondent was told at the USSR Ministry of the Gas Industry. The biggest part of the volume of gas extracted was from the deposits Bulla-Sea and Bakhar in the Caspian. These deposits are being developed from stationary drilling platforms. The output of gas in the area will be increased in 1983. The extraction of gas in the Azov Sea increased, too. Geologists already discovered six gas deposits in the Azov Sea but only two most promising ones are now being industrially developed. The Black Sea will become a new area of offshore gas extraction in the New Year. The construction of a 72-kilometre-long underwater gas pipeline is being concluded there. It will link the Golitsinsky deposit with the Crimean Peninsula. When it is put into operation, the Crimean Peninsula, traditionally a gas consumer, will become a gas supplier. The volume of gas extraction from the continental shelf amounts so far to less than three percent of the volume of gas extracted in the USSR, since it has very rich gas reserves in Western Siberia. The total volume of gas extraction in the USSR surpassed 500 billion cubic meters in 1982. [Moscow TASS in English 2227 GMT 13 Jan 83 LD]

STATUS OF SOWING PREPARATIONS DESCRIBED

LD182200 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Jan 83

["News commentary" by journalist Aleksandr Ruvinskiy]

[Text] Over half the winter is behind us. In a month's time, in the first days of February, grain sowers can go out to the fields in south Russia and the Ukraine. The coming sowing is now the main concern in the countryside. How are preparations coming along? To judge from summarized statistical data, seeds are available for virtually the entire spring sowing area; there is even some excess. However, at a large number of farms, seed funds have not yet been established. In Uzbekistan, Georgia, Armenia and Kirghizia, such farms account for over half the total while the seeds that are available require substantial extra work to bring them up to high standards.

In a considerable area in the south, resowing of winter crops is expected. The necessary seeds are being allocated from state resources for these purposes but work on preparing, exchanging and delivering them is going slowly. On the average, preparation of machinery at kolkhozes and sovkhozes is proceeding at the level of past years; but this level cannot be satisfactory today because we cannot be satisfied with the harvest achieved over the past few years. This year, the task has been posed to sharply raise the harvest of virtually all crops.

In the spring, we must also have a certain reserve capacity of tractors and trailer equipment. After all, the amount of work, as I have already mentioned, will increase. Part of the winter crops did not come up in the autumn while in many fields -- also as a result of the dry weather -- there will have to be additional tillage of the soil -- specialists reckon perhaps more than once.

Also important is who will work the machinery. Over 3.3 million tractor drivers will be needed during the spring. Of course, help comes from students, those studying mechanization at vocational-technical schools and workers of industrial enterprises; but the facts show that in a number of farms, attention to their own staff has weakened. For example, at farms in Estonia and Smolensk Oblast, for every 10 tractors there are presently less than 8 mechanic-drivers. Shortcomings in preparations for the spring sowing were noted at the session of the Politburo on 30 December.

At kolkhozes and sovkhozes, in all organizations of the agroindustrial complex, much work has been started taking into account these remarks. Not only must there be good preparation of seeds, machinery and personnel, but a system of measures must also be adopted in order to use in the most rational manner fuel, fertilizers and our improved lands, which is often not fully used. There will be a far wider introduction of brigade contracting in the countryside. Experience has shown that this is now a major reserve for increasing harvests and increasing labor productivity.

'UNUSUALLY MILD' LATE DECEMBER WEATHER REPORTED

PM170907 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Jan 83 p 2

[Report by Agrometeorologist A. Grishina: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] During the third 10-day period of December it remained unusually mild all over the European part of the USSR. The average temperature for the period was between 4 and 9 degrees above the long-term average while in the North and Volga-Vyataka Regions and northern part of the Ural Region it was 11-13 degrees above the long-term average.

On some days the maximum temperature over most of the territory was 2-8 decrees. In southern parts of the Ukraine and in Moldavia and the North Caucasus it reached 10-17 degrees which caused winter grain crops to start growing.

The last day of December saw a sharp drop in temperature and it remained cold at the beginning of January. The minimum air temperature in the north region was minus 25 to minus 30 in the Northwest and northern parts of the Central and Volga-Vyatka Regions 26, and in the middle Volga area between minus 15 and minus 20 degrees. At the beginning of January the cold also extended into more southerly parts. In the Central Chernozem Zone, in Moldavia and eastern parts of the Ukraine the nighttime temperature fell to between minus 10 and minus 15 degrees. The cold spell did not endanger the winter grain crops because it was accompanied by snow. The soil temperature at winter crop tillering node depth did not drop below minus 8 to minus 10 degrees.

On 3 January the frontier of total snow cover followed a line joining Odessa, Nikolayev, Melitopol, Krasnodar, Volgograd and Guryev. In most parts it was 3-8 cm deep. It was 15-20 cm, occasionally over 30 cm deep in northern parts of the Central Region, in the north, Volga-Vyataka and Ural Regions and in a number of oblasts in the Volga Region.

In the western and southern parts of the USSR's European territory the soil is thawing: in the northern half it is frozen to a depth of 11-25 cm.

In the Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan it was mild throughout the period with the temperature reaching 8-13 degrees, in southern Turkmenia it reached 18-20 degrees.

In the farming regions of West and East Siberia it remained very warm for the time of year. The temperature was 8-12 degrees above average. On some days it rose to 4 degrees; it did not fall below minus 25 to minus 28 at night. The winter grain crops were covered with snow.

BRIEFS

UZBEK PRODUCTION OBLIGATIONS -- Workers at Uzbek kolkhozes and sovkhozes have responded to the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee decision regarding an increased pace in preparation for the forthcoming agricultural season by an increased effort in their work. The toilers of the republic's agricultural domain have major tasks to fulfill in the 3d year of the 11th 5-year development plan. The cottongrowers will sell 6 million tons of cotton to the state. Also to be sold to the state is 1.05 million tons of grain, 1.6 million tons of vegetables, 610,000 tons of fish products and 800,000 tons of grapes. Preparations under way in the republic's agricultural domain for fulfilling these great tasks are being carried out at a very fast pace. [Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1300 GMT 19 Jan 83 GF]

COSMOS-1437 EARTH SATELLITE LAUNCHED 20 JAN

LD210718 Moscow TASS in English 0700 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 21 TASS -- On Thursday the Soviet Union put into orbit the artificial earth satellite Cosmos-1437.

The satellite carries scientific equipment to continue research of outer space.

The satellite was put into orbit with the following characteristics: initial period of revolution -- 97.6 minutes; maximum distance from earth's surface -- 678 kilometres; minimum distance from earth's surface -- 629 kilometres; inclination of the orbit -- 81.2 degrees.

The satellite has aboard a radio system for accurate measurement of elements of the orbit and a radio telemetric system to send back to earth information about the work of instruments and scientific equipment.

The equipment carried by the satellite operates normally and the computer centre is processing incoming information.

FLIGHT OF SALYUT-7 STATION 'PROCEEDING NORMALLY'

LD191128 Moscow TASS in English 1111 GMT 19 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- A TASS special correspondent reports from Mission Control Centre: The Salyut-7 scientific station is functioning on a near-earth orbit for already nine months. By 13 hours Moscow time it had completed 4342 orbits around the earth.

Trials of the station's separate onboard systems and equipment are being continued in the course of its automatic flight. Also functioning are the system of monitoring the meteor situation in near-earth outer space, equipment for measuring micro overloads and a number of other scientific instruments. The data transmitted to the control centre is being processed and studied.

According to data of telemetric measurements, the flight of the Salyut-7 station is proceeding normally. The parameters of its orbit at present are: maximum distance from the surface of the earth - 356 kilometres, minimum distance - 340 kilometres, period of revolution - 91.3 minutes, inclination of orbit - 51.6 degrees.

SPACE OFFICIAL FORESEES PERMANENT SPACE CREWS

LD181452 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The Soviet Union will have space crews in orbit on a permanent basis in the near future. This has been stated in an interview with Radio Moscow by Georgiy Beregovoy, the official in charge of the national Cosmonaut Training Center. According to Beregovoy, in the past 5 years Soviet crews have taken turns in working in orbit for a total of 2 and 1/2 years. This has been possible due to the creation of the first generation of space labs, which can receive space (?trucks) together with new materials for research and renew the supply of water, food and air.

MILITARY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE HOLDS MEETING

PM201545 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jan 83 Second Edition p 2

[Lieutenant Colonel of Justice I. Vashkevich report: "Military Prosecutors Confer"]

[Text] An extended session of the Main Military Prosecutor's Office has taken place, with the participation of military prosecutors of military districts, groups of forces, fleets and certain garrisons. Chief Military Prosecutor Colonel General of Justice A.G. Gornyy analyzed the state of work by military prosecutors' offices in the light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution of 12 January this year.

The session was addressed by Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. Taking part in the Collegium's work were A.M. Rekunkov, USSR prosecutor general; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister; V.I. Gladyshev, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Administrative Organs Department; and executives of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Defense Ministry and a number of other ministries and departments.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA CORRESPONDENT DIES SUDDENLY

PM171545 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jan 83 Second Edition p 4

[Text] The editorial collegium, party committee and collective of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA announce with deep regret the sudden death of Lieutenant Colonel Vadim Pavlovich Starostin, the newspaper's senior permanent correspondent for the Central Asian Military District. They express profound condolences to the family and friends of the deceased.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON 1983 MILITARY TRAINING TASKS

PM131305 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Jan 83 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Toward New Frontiers"]

[Excerpt] There are big tasks ahead. They require strenuous work, a high degree of organizational and conscious discipline. "It is especially necessary and important now," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee November plenum, "that every working person understands that the plan's fulfillment is dependent on his labor contribution, too, and that everyone grasps well the simple truth that the better we work, the better we live...." It is gratifying that it is precisely an awareness of their lofty responsibility for resolving tasks set by the party and a predisposition toward deeds not words that typifies the workers at the industrial enterprises, construction sites, kolkhozes and sovkhozes, taking part in the competition to fulfill and overfulfill the targets for 1983 and the 5-year plan as a whole.

The creation of communism, to which Soviet people devote their thoughts and deeds, is indissolubly linked with our country's tireless struggle to preserve peace. The Soviet Union consistently defends its own interests and the interests of our allies and friends. True to the peace-loving principles and goals of its foreign policy, it resolutely acts against the threat of nuclear war and against the arms race unleashed by the imperialists. The fraternal socialist countries and all peace-loving forces of the planet are with us.

Of course, the plans of the imperialist "hawks" are doomed to failure. But it would be a great error to ignore the growth of U.S. and NATO military preparations.

It is clear that a reliable means is needed to curb the aggressive forces. We know very well that one does not go begging to the imperialists for peace. Peace can be upheld only by relying on the unconquerable might of the Soviet Armed Forces. Our country's working people and its armed defenders welcome with a sense of profound gratitude and pride the words of the New Year greetings to the Soviet people: "...We will display the greatest vigilance. Those who support military adventures should know that the inviolability of our borders and the borders of our allies is being reliably ensured. The Soviet Armed Forces are a powerful factor for peace and the peoples' security."

Invested with great trust and surrounded by the concern of the party and people, Army and Navy servicemen fulfill their lofty mission with honor. They marked the glorious jubilee -- the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation -- with considerable achievements in martial labor. But they make it a rule not to sit on their laurels, because complacency can be the most detrimental to those keeping armed watch over the fatherland's security.

Army and Navy servicemen have greeted 1983 with the firm determination to reach new frontiers in improving their combat skill. These frontiers are clearly defined by the programs, plans and socialist pledges of units' and ships' personnel. A month of the winter training period has elapsed and it is already possible to name several military collectives which have achieved new successes in combat and political training. Among these is the four-times order-bearing Zaporozhskaya Guards' Tank Division. It was one of the best in the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany. Yesterday the editorial board was in communication with this formation through its correspondent and received confirmation that from the very first days of the New Year the guards-tankmen are displaying enviable energy and enthusiasm in training.

The tasks being resolved by the servicemen of all branches of the Armed Forces and categories of troops are highly diverse. But ultimately they boil down to constant combat readiness. It is precisely this which crowns troops' combat skill in peacetime and which is the key to victory in war. Consequently, its most important elements must invariably be kept in sight by commanders, staffs, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations.

It is known, for example, that observing the principal of teaching troops what is necessary in war is of great importance in training personnel. That being so, the commander, staff officer and political worker should be fully aware both of what specifically has been done for this and what still needs to be done in the subunit, unit and ship. The same approach is needed when it is a question of the skillful mastery of weaponry and combat equipment, further strengthening military discipline and regulation order, improving the effectiveness of party political work and so forth. This is the guarantee of a successful struggle, whose aim is clearly formulated in the Army and Navy competition motto: "Heighten vigilance and reliably ensure the motherland's security."

Soviet people have entered the New Year full of optimism. This optimism is only natural. The celebrations for the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation showed once again that our country, the country of developed socialism, has at its disposal inexhaustible potential to increase its might, that enormous experience in creating a new society has been accumulated and their support for the Leninist party's policy is unanimous. All this enables us to resolve more complex tasks and to advance confidently along the path of building communism.